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The Missouri Miner, January 20 2000

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Missouri Miner

University of Missouri-Rolla

Volume XXCIX, Number 15

January 20, 2000

Mitchell moves into vacant Coordinator of Student Activities position

Brad Neuville
News Editor

The University of Missouri-Rolla Student Union Board has a new adviser this semester. Former SUB adviser Bill Wilson resigned his position as he left to take a job at Michigan Technological University.

SUB's new adviser is Paul Mitchell. Mitchell received his bachelor's degree in Radio and Television from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Mitchell then attended Eastern Illinois University where he received his master's degree in education. His emphasis area was in college student personnel.

Mitchell's previous experience includes work at the University of Wisconsin River Falls where he was a campus activities coordinator. His duties included campus programming and working with the fraternities.

Mitchell was interviewed in November and made it through a

search and screen process.

"The majority of my duties are advising the Student Union Board," Mitchell said. "I'd say about 55 percent of my duties are in that area. The other 45 percent is working with the student organizations as a whole."

"Basically I will help them mainly with the registration process," Mitchell said. "I'll make sure that they are all in compliance with the university's policies, making sure all the t's are crossed and the i's dotted."

The Student Union board coordinates many on campus events including the fall and St. Pat's concerts, weekly film viewings, scheduling theatre productions and many other activities on campus.

Mitchell's official title is the coordinator of student activities on campus but he was quick to point out that most of his duties are with SUB.

"A lot of the time [I spend] is with the Student Union Board," Mitchell said. "I will also help with

student activities with events like parent's week and parent's day. Basically I will be involved with campus-wide activities."

SUB is set up similar to a democratic government with a president. The current president is Elizabeth Willis. There are then several committee's (Concerts, Leisure and Rec and Special Events are a few) each with their own director. Mitchell is directly involved with these director's and sits in on the SUB board meetings.

"SUB's committee's range from two to up to ten to 15 members," Mitchell said. "I would say the concerts committee is one of the larger committees. We are working on improving committee involvement as well."

If you would like more information about the Student Union Board you can contact SUB at 341-4220 or at sub@umr.edu.

Enrollment continues decline

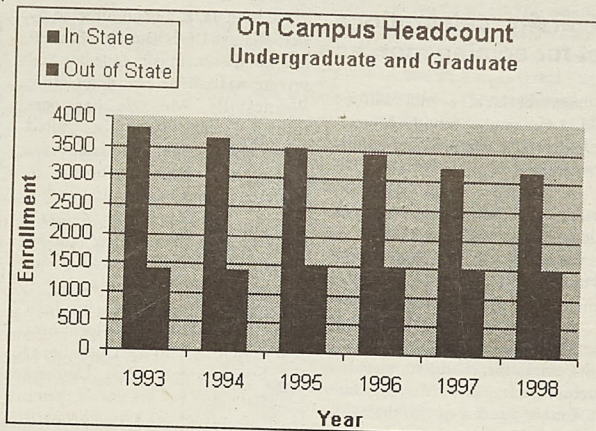
Brad Neuville
News Editor

Enrollment on the first day of classes at the University of Missouri-Rolla was projected to be 3,893, down from last year's first-day enrollment.

Last winter, 4,034 students were enrolled on the first day of the winter semester.

The graphic below shows UMR's total enrollment and it's downward trend over the past six years. 1999 statistics are yet to be finalized.

While the graphic shows both graduate and undergraduate numbers the general trend is a decrease in enrollment, an issue that has been troubling UMR for some time.



Leach Theatre Production Manager terminated; fraud investigation still continuing

Ken Grant
News Writer

On Dec. 10, 1999, the UMR police began an investigation into an employee fraud case involving the Production Manager at Leach Theatre, Jeff Markley.

According to the UMR police blot-

ter, many items purchased by the department were discovered missing and several forged receipts were also found.

This led to the termination of Markley on Dec. 14, according to UMR police blotter. A university police investigation is still continuing.

Mark Potrafka, the University of

Missouri Rolla's director of student activities, verified that Markley stopped working for the University in December, but said he was unable to comment further pending the results of the university investigation.

The loss of Markley creates a gap in the Leach Theatre staff. Markley was responsible for among other things scheduling technicians for shows and handling much of the Theatre's bookwork.

Ruth Bardy, the house manager and interim production manager at Leach, said that there are mixed feelings among the students but that overall they have responded well.

"They are exhibiting lots of solidarity," Bardy said.

"Everybody's pretty shocked," David Nuss Supervisor of Leach Theatre said. "It was very unexpected."

Both Bardy and Potrafka think that the Leach Theatre has an excellent crew, and though the loss of Markley and his five years of experience was unfortunate, the crew will be able to maintain the quality of the shows at the theatre until a new production manager can be found.

"We've already made the necessary arrangements for proper functioning," Nuss said. "We'll get by all right."

Public Relations receives awards

UMR Press Release

The University of Missouri-Rolla has won three awards for excellence in institutional advancement from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), District VI, in the district's annual awards competition.

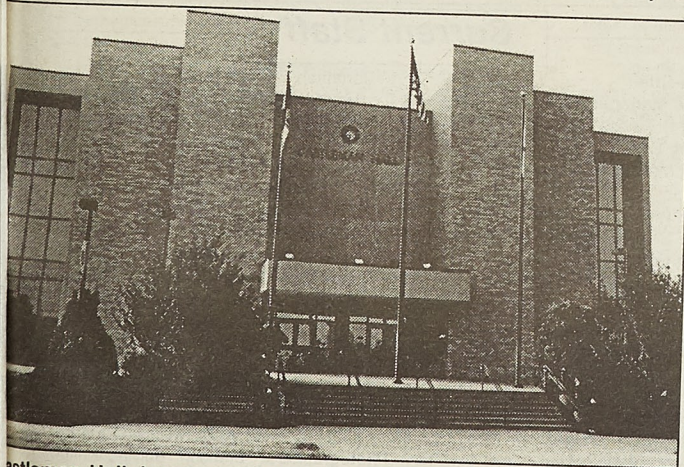
UMR received one gold award for newswriting, and one silver and one bronze award for visual design.

UMR's office of public relations won the gold award for a news release written last February about an educational project involving the use of composite materials to build a pedestrian bridge on campus.

The UMR office of publications won the silver and bronze awards in visual design for a postcard designed to honor donors to the aerospace engineering program (silver award) and for the campus viewbook for student recruitment (bronze award).

The award-winning UMR entries were among the nearly 800 entries received from colleges, universities and independent schools in CASE District VI. The district includes institutions in Missouri, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

All award winners will be honored during the CASE District VI conference Jan. 9-11 in St. Louis.



Castleman Hall, home of UMR's Leach Theatre. Leach Theatre is currently without a full time production manager as former manager Jeff Markley was terminated.

photo courtesy of UMR Public Relations

NEWSBRIEFS ON CAMPUS

Globetrotter tickets still available

Tickets for the Harlem Globetrotters performance, scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2000 at the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building, are still available.

Tickets are \$16 for lower level seats and \$11 for upper level seats. In addition, there are \$2 discounts for youths ages 12 and under, individuals 60 and over, and for UMR students and employees with a valid identification card.

Tickets may be purchased at the UMR athletics office, the ticket office in University Center-West, or at Adventure Time Video in Rolla.

Diversity celebrations set for coming months

Several local events will be held in the coming months to celebrate diversity and promote cultural awareness.

A Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration service was held at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17, at the Parker Fine Arts Center on the campus of Waynesville High School.

Christ Episcopal Church, 10th and Main streets in Rolla, will host a Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17. Toni Scott, director of the Multicultural Educational Support Program at the University of Missouri-Rolla, will be the guest speaker.

The Rolla Area Chapter of the NAACP will hold its 1999 banquet Jan. 29 in Centennial Hall on the UMR campus. The program, which begins at 6:30 p.m., will feature Sonja McClendon, a civil rights analyst for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The NAACP will award scholar-

ships to African American students at the event and members of the community will be presented with "Yes I Can" awards.

Tickets for the banquet may be purchased by calling the local chapter of the NAACP at (573) 368-4616 or by calling Janet Walker, co-chair of the Rolla chapter, at (573) 341-2692. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. Students may also get discounted tickets from the Minority Engineering Program at UMR.

Members of the Association of Black Students at UMR will hold their annual Dinner to Jazz concert/banquet at 6 p.m. Feb. 26 in Centennial Hall on campus. This event has been a tradition at UMR since 1965. A buffet dinner will precede musical entertainment provided by 4-Jazz, a band directed by saxophonist Chris Burnett. Burnett is a composer, music educator and private saxophone instructor from Waynesville, Mo. He has performed extensively in the United States and Europe, and his compositions have been performed in numerous venues and on Italian television. Selections from 4-Jazz's compact disc, "Time Flies," can be heard on the National Public Radio airwaves throughout Missouri.

An Oratory Contest for high school students from the local area will be held at 8:30 a.m., Feb. 26, at the Southwestern Bell Cultural Center in Rolla. This year's theme is "Most influential African American leaders in the past millennium." More than \$175 in prizes will be given.

Artwork by area fifth- and sixth-grade students will be on display in UMR's University Center-West during March. The theme for this year's art contest is "The African American Legacy."

The Gospel Explosion is an event that has been held annually in

the Rolla area since 1989. Special guests for the 2000 New Millennium Gospel Explosion will be Soul Winners for Christ Chorale from Columbia, Mo. The featured group will be in concert with UMR gospel group Voices of Inspiration at 4 p.m. April 22 in the UMR cafeteria. The concert is free.

The general public is invited to attend all events.

Several other events are also being planned in conjunction with African American Heritage Month. For more information, contact Mary Ann Pulley, chairperson of the African American Cultural Recognition Committee at UMR, at (573) 341-6937 or maryap@umr.edu.

UMR's Tom Shipley receives award

Tom Shipley, producer and director of institutional media at the University of Missouri-Rolla Video Communications Center, recently received a 1999 Communicator Award of Distinction for the production of "1998 UMR Aerospace Camp," a video produced by Shipley for the University Outreach and Extension program.

The Communicator Awards is a national awards program that recognizes outstanding work in the communications field. Some 3,275 entries from 49 states and seven other countries participated in the 1999 competition.

"This award was very much the result of a group effort on the part of our staff at the Video Communications Center," Shipley said. "And a special thanks to Dr. John Sheffield and Sue Turner of the University Outreach and Extension Office, who worked very hard to make the project a success."

The video was created to promote the Aerospace Camp, a sum-

mer program designed to interest middle school and junior high students in aerospace engineering and related fields.

Program promotes future history teachers

The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federal-ly-endowed program designed to strengthen instruction about the United States Constitution in the nation's schools, will award fellowships in 2000 for graduate-level study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution.

College seniors and college graduates who plan to earn a master's degree and become secondary school teachers of American history, American government or social studies are eligible for the awards. Fellowships carry a maximum stipend of \$24,000 (for up to two years of full-time study for graduate students), which is used to cover the costs of tuition, required fees, room and board, and books. Fellows must enroll in graduate programs leading to master's degrees in American history, political science or education at an accredited university.

This year, James Madison Fellowships will be awarded competitively to at least one legal resident of each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories. After completing graduate school, James Madison Fellows are required to teach American history, American government or social studies in grades 7-12 for at least one year per academic year of graduate assistance they received.

Participation in an accredited four-week summer institute on the principles, framing and implementation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights is required of all fellows. The summer institute, which is nor-

mally attended during the summer after a fellow earns his or her master's degree, is held at Georgetown University.

The deadline for applying for a James Madison Fellowship is March 1. More details about the program can be obtained from Dr. Donald Oster, associate professor of history and political science at the University of Missouri-Rolla. Oster can be reached at (573) 341-4817. Interested students can also write the James Madison Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 4030, Iowa City, Iowa, 52243. The foundation can be reached by calling 1-800-525-6928 or by consulting the Internet (<http://www.james-madison.com>).

Footworks to present traditional dance at UMR

The University of Missouri-Rolla Campus Performing Arts Series will present Footworks, a traditional American dance company, at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 28, in Leach Theatre of UMR's Castleman Hall.

Admission is \$16 for adults, \$12 for UMR students, and \$12 for those age 18 and younger. For more information, call the UMR Ticket Window at (573) 341-4219.

Footworks has performed for audiences of all ages and cultures. Recently, the dance company appeared in the London run of the hit show "Riverdance." Footworks has also performed its own sold-out shows throughout the United States, Canada and Japan.

Eileen Carson, the group's artistic director, received a two-year National Endowment for the Arts Choreography Fellowship in 1994 for her work with Footworks.

The Missouri Miner

The Missouri Miner is a publication of the students of the University of Missouri - Rolla. It is distributed each Wednesday in Rolla, Missouri and features activities of the students of UMR. The Missouri Miner is also online at <http://www.umn.edu/~miner>.

The Missouri Miner encourages comments from its readers and will attempt to print all responsible letters and editorial material received. All submissions must have a name, student ID number, and phone number for verification. Names may be withheld upon request.

The Missouri Miner is operated by the students of UMR and the opinions expressed in it do not necessarily reflect those of the university, faculty, or student body.

All articles, features, photographs, and illustrations published are the property of the Missouri Miner and may not be reproduced or published without written permission.

Submissions for publication must be in our mail box in 113 University Center-West by 3:30 p.m. on the Thursday before publication. Submissions will be accepted through e-mail at miner@umr.edu. The Missouri Miner reserves the right to edit all submissions for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling, length, and matters of good taste.

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UMR Crime Blotter

01/15/00 at 5:53 a.m.: UMR police respond to a university residence hall in reference to an information request from an international student about personal privacy issues. Same were resolved on the scene.

01/12/00 at 2:19 a.m.: UMR Police detain and identify non-student parked on private property near T.J. Residence Hall. Same was reportedly looking in vehicles in the private parking lot. Same was released after interview.

01/11/00 at 2:50 p.m.: UMR Police serve local arrest warrant on a student for Failure to Appear in court concerning a traffic citation. Same was transported to RPD and turned over for processing.

01/11/00 at 2:48 a.m.: UMR Police contact and identify two non-students parked in a No Parking Zone on a dead-end street near T.J. Residence Hall. Same were directed to leave.

01/10/00 at 11:45 p.m.: UMR Police assist RPD with detention of suspicious motorists parked in a remote section of campus property. Subjects were both given Trespass Warnings and released.

01/09/00 at 7:50 a.m.: UMR Police discover minor property damage to a university owned building. Same was reported for repair. Continuing.

01/09/00 at 6:15 a.m.: UMR Police assist RPD in investigation of a C&I motorist near campus. Same was located in an off-campus residence. Same was not a university student.

01/06/00 at 5:59 p.m.: UMR Police give Trespass Warning to a non-student at the Multi-Purpose Building. Same was directed to leave premises and complied.

01/03/00 at 1:04 p.m.: UMR Police investigate minor vehicle accident in Parking Area #20. Report completed.

01/01/00 at 1:30 p.m.: UMR Police contacted by the mother of a juvenile who is being harassed (off-campus) by unknown persons posting derogatory paper flyers. Report was information only.

01/01/00 at 12:30 a.m.: UMR Police briefed by RPD on subject from pursuit and arrest of 12-31-99. Same was not seriously injured in the wreck and remains incarcerated in the Phelps County Jail.

12/31/99 at 4:10 a.m.: UMR Police, while assisting RPD in a search for an armed robbery suspect who escaped their custody, initiated pursuit of the subject vehicle and tracked same onto east-bound I-44. Other agency units finally caught up and the subject was captured when he wrecked his vehicle. Suspect had two outstanding warrants, was P&P for Assault and Burglary and subsequently confessed to multiple motel and hotel robberies along I-44.

12/29/99 at 11:40 p.m.: UMR Police investigate altercation at a stoplight near the Quad. Persons were harassing a UMR student by following his vehicle with theirs and yelling at him. Same reported to RPD and case continues.

12/29/99 at 4:00 p.m.: UMR Police investigate staff report of theft of computer components and software from a room in the Physics building. Continuing.

12/28/99 at 5:50 p.m.: UMR Police check on vehicle at a university building with trunk opened. Same was a student working on his car.

12/27/99 at 10:45 a.m.: County Prosecutor declines to file charges against the UMR employees involved in the altercation reported on 12/06/99.

12/25/99 at 3:05 p.m.: UMR Police respond to alarm at Library. Investigation revealed the same KUMR employee set alarm off again (twice). Remedial training in correct procedure to avoid tripping alarms will be provided for KUMR employees.

12/25/99 at 12:43 p.m.: UMR Police respond to alarm at Library. Same was caused by KUMR employee error.

12/23/99 at 11:00 a.m.: UMR Police recontact UCE staff concerning complaint made on 12-13-99. Suspicious female has not returned to the facility.

12/21/99 at 2:47 p.m.: UMR Police respond to Multi-Purpose building and remove three non-students using the facilities. Same were given Trespass warnings.

12/21/99 at 9:30 a.m.: UMR Police investigate staff report concerning an attempted break-in of the dryers in the Stuart Apartment laundry area. Continuing.

12/17/99 at 3:45 p.m.: UMR Police receive information from victim of theft report originating on 11-25-99 that his belongings were returned by the bookstore.

12/17/99 at 1:20 a.m.: UMR Police assist RPD at a fraternity that was being egged by another frat. Frat officers were contacted and worked out a mutual agreement to repair damages and stop the problem behavior.

12/16/99 at 1:38 a.m.: UMR Police assist RPD in locating a

vehicle reportedly involved in an attempted theft off-campus. Same was located at a UMR fraternity annex house and frat officers were contacted to assist RPD in identifying and locating owner/operator.

12/16/99 at 11:30 a.m.: UMR Police receive information from a UMR employee concerning a missing laptop computer. Investigation revealed it was taken during the incident reported on 05-30-99 at Humanities.

12/15/99 at 4:30 p.m.: UMR Police detain and give Trespass warning to a rollerblader caught on campus. Same was not a UMR student and was escorted off campus.

12/15/99 at 10:00 a.m.: Further investigation into employee fraud case of 12-10-99 reveals many department purchased items missing and forged receipts. Employee was terminated on 12-14-99 and case continues.

12/14/99 at 8:30 p.m.: UMR Police assist international student in resolving a disagreement with another student (off-campus) originally reported as Harassment. Suspect contacted and warned concerning violations of MO laws. Complaint was characterized as a misunderstanding.

12/13/99: UMR Police locate student and transport same to RPD pursuant to three outstanding municipal arrest warrants issued for failing to pay city parking fines. Same was released on \$108 bond.

12/13/99 at 12:05 p.m.: UMR Police check on staff report of a suspicious female in UCE. Same was found to do business with the Phelps County Bank Annex periodically, but will be monitored for improper behavior as she has caused problems in the past.

12/11/99 at 4:30 p.m.: UMR Police interview employee from fraud case of 12-10-99. Same made admissions of guilt but not of criminal acts. Further search for missing department items initiated and investigation continues.

12/10/99 at 11:00 p.m.: UMR Police investigate a student report of theft where a textbook was stolen from an unsecured backpack that had been left in the library for two hours. Bookstore notified and case continues.

12/10/99 at 3:45 p.m.: UMR Police detain a student rollerblading near Castleman Hall. Same was given a verbal Trespass warning and entered in the computer database at UMRPD.

12/10/99 at 2:50 p.m.: UMR Police write and file report of minor vehicle accident that occurred in a residence hall parking lot the previous evening.

12/14/99 at 11:30 a.m.: UMR Police begin investigation of staff report of possible employee fraud by Leach Theatre Production Manager. Same was substantiated in initial investigation and case continues.

12/09/99 at 6:00 p.m.: UMR Police contact and identify student with outstanding university tickets on a vehicle he is using. Tickets will be charged to the individual's student account.

12/09/99 at 10:25 a.m.: UMR Police locate and arrest student who took a Parking Department towboot that had been attached to his vehicle to immobilize it due to the accumulation of unpaid university parking tickets. Student re-imbursed the Parking Dept. for the replacement cost of the towboot, and must pay the tickets to avoid criminal charges for Trespassing, Property Damage and Stealing.

12/09/99 at 6:45 a.m.: UMR Police respond to custodian report of obscene graffiti on a chalkboard in Humanities. Same was erased by custodian immediately thereafter.

12/08/99 at 7:00 p.m.: UMR Police respond with RFD to a report of a gas odor near Castleman Hall. Report was unfounded.

12/08/99 at 12:05 p.m.: UMR Police contacted by victim of vehicle break-in of 12-04-99 to report a pair of sunglasses and the vehicle ashtray missing. Some cost estimates also provided. Continuing.

12/08/99 at 12:39 a.m.: UMR Police detain and issue verbal Trespass warning to a student observed bicycling on main campus. Same was entered in the electronic Trespass Database and released.

12/08/99 at 10:36 a.m.: Computer in previous entry determined to be at campus repair service.

12/08/99 at 1:00 a.m.: UMR Police check on Security Guard report of a missing computer in an ME CLC. Continuing.

12/06/99 at 2:21 p.m.: UMR Police check on unconscious student in a bathroom stall at Civil Engineering. Same appeared to be intoxicated and was transported to PCRMC.

12/06/99 at 11:00 a.m.: UMR Police investigate a physical altercation between Computing Services employees. Statements were gathered and case continues. Charges pending.

This week's crime blotter is a compilation of all weekly blotter's since the last issue of the Miner.

Internet voting the wave of the future?**Eric Bailey****L.A. Times/Washington Post**

We shop by computer, buy stocks by computer, keep in touch with old friends by computer. Now, at the dawn of a new century, we may soon have the option of voting online.

Officials in one Northern California county are so gung-ho about the idea that they hope to offer voters the option in November of casting a ballot via the Internet.

"This is something that might re-engage this nation of nonvoters we've become," said Warren Slocum, who presides over elections in San Mateo County, on the north edge of Silicon Valley. He says that "you'll probably be able to vote from home in your pajamas by 2010."

Despite such enthusiasm, online voting has yet to get a warm embrace from state election officials. A report to be released Tuesday by Secretary of State Bill Jones recommends a go-slow approach, concluding that Internet voting remains potentially vulnerable to fraud and abuse.

E-voting technology, while advancing rapidly, cannot yet guarantee that an election would remain invulnerable to hackers, viruses or other digital plagues, some experts say.

"The danger is there and the danger is real," said David Jefferson, a computer scientist at Compac Computers in the Silicon Valley and a member of Jones' task force. "We must not screw this up. If there is a scandal where people get disenfranchised or don't trust the vote, it could set back Internet voting a generation."

Companies that produce the software for online voting are forging ahead, insisting that they already can provide tamper-proof elections. Supporters say e-voting is fraught with no more peril than the current practice of allowing people to mail in absentee ballots.

Demonstration projects have been run in Iowa, Virginia and Ohio. Washington-based VoteHere.net will conduct an Alaska presidential straw poll using the Internet later this month. Meanwhile, a New York firm, Votation.com, will offer Internet voting for Arizona's Democratic primary in March.

"The technology is there to make Internet voting as secure as elections are today," said Jim Adler, VoteHere.net president. "It's ready now. There are real advantages right now."

The only real stumbling block, Adler said, is that the Internet is not yet a universal fixture in American households. But just wait a few years. By 2004, 80 percent of the nation's households are expected to have Internet access, according to a congressional study.

Boosters see online voting as a potential antidote to the nation's lackluster voter turnout. Voting by Americans between 18 and 24, in particular, has been in decline. Some experts believe online voting could energize young people.

But state election officials want to take a methodical approach to Election Day on the Internet. The report being released Tuesday by the Jones task force, a panel of about 20 computer experts, voter advocates and regular citizens, recommends a step-by-step process for phasing in e-voting.

The task force recommends that voters initially be allowed to tap the Internet only from computers at existing polling places, which can be monitored for problems by election officials.

In subsequent elections, computers could be placed in high-traffic spots such as office buildings and banks as a convenience to voters. As the technology proves itself, the final step would be allowing voting from home or work via the Internet.

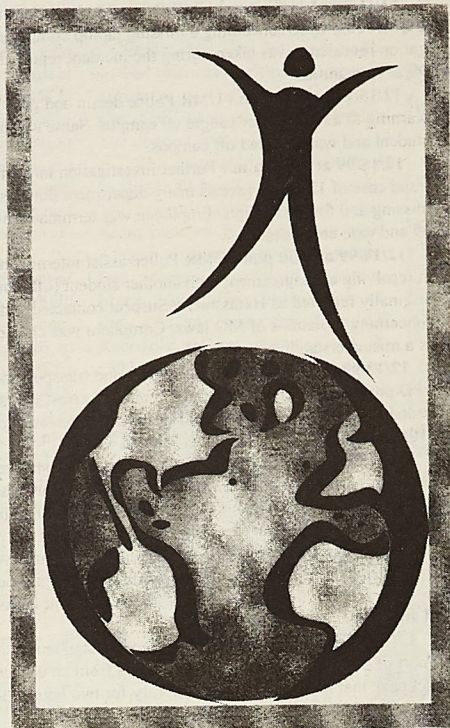
But state election officials could have e-voting forced on them fast. Two initiatives are being circulated for the November ballot that would permit Californians to register and vote via the Internet.

One is being pushed by Votation.com, the New York e-voting firm. The other, which also would allow gathering signatures on the Net for ballot measures, is sponsored by the San Francisco-based Living Constitution Society, a non-profit group. Neither initiative has qualified for the ballot.

Jones said he is "leery" of the two proposals. He is

see Voting, page 16

YOU'RE INVITED!



SPRING 2000 CAREER FAIR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 2000

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ROLLA

10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

STUDENT REC CENTER

BRING YOUR RESUME!

ATTEND A CAREER FAIR WORKSHOP!

CHECK OUT COMPANIES ATTENDING AT

SPONSORED BY UMR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES CENTER

Opinions

January 20, 2000

The Missouri Miner

Page 5

Out with the old, in with the new

An Editorial by Managing Editor Randal A. Burd, Jr.

It has come to my attention numerous times this past semester that people get tired of reading the same arguments over and over on the same topic over and over. Well, so do I. So your complaints have reached my ears. You have identified a problem. Now, let me propose a solution.

We have begun a new year (not a new millennium). So, it would be fitting to have a new set of topics to debate and new horizons of thought to explore. I and the staff at the Missouri Miner will do our part to present new ideas for you the students to accept or rebuff. Some of our editorials will be easy to accept or ignore, and will not impel anyone to respond. Other editorials will make you want to speak out in agreement, anger, or will make you want to state your

own vastly different opinion on the subject.

My first suggestion to you is to go with your impulses. If you have something to say, say it. Your opinion is valued, and no one will know what you think or be able to agree with you if you remain silent. You must include your student number and name with your submission, but you will remain anonymous if you so choose—your name will not be printed with your letter.

Of course, since editorials or letters to the editor may make you extremely angry, you must also be careful to attack the issue or point you are upset about, and not the writer of the article. Attacking the writer of the article not only does not help people to understand what you are upset about or to see the issue from your point of view, but

attacking the writer makes you look irate and unprofessional, and does not encourage people to sympathize with your ideas or grievances. Submissions which attack either our staff members personally or those who send letters to the editor will not be printed, so if you spend a lot of time writing a letter attacking someone personally, you will be wasting time you could be spending writing a counterargument or constructive criticism which will actually find its way to the printed page.

Finally, letters containing new arguments and ideas (and topics) will be included above repetitive submissions on previous topics, so if you are tired of reading about one topic, stop complaining and send us something else.

Letter to the Editor:

A reluctant defense of evolution

Dear Editor,

There is little doubt that everyone who has read the past few issues of the Miner is aware of the heated debate about sexuality and religion that has taken center stage in the Letters to the Editor section. I myself have been following the discussions with a good amount of interest, but not really for the sexuality issue (I frankly don't see why it continues). No, my interest in the articles has not been about separating the "sin of fornication" into varying degrees of abomination, but more about a curiosity to see how many irritating, fallacious, or irrelevant arguments I can discover in each week's issue. However, though I have had some warped enjoyment out of reading the letters, I was always worried that this debate, with all of its religious overtones, was going to inspire someone out there to write a big long article attacking the validity of the theory of biological evolution. And, lo and behold, it happened in the December 8, 1999 issue of the Miner in the letter entitled, "Homosexuality and Faith: An end to potshots and confessional columns."

From my tone, it may seem that I'm about to offer up the inevitable pro-evolution rebuttal for the infamous Evolution/Instantaneous Creation debate, but I must say that I would hesitate to do so. One reason is that so many people confuse such a stance with a general attack on religion. Maybe evolution knocks on a few dogmas here and there, but too many people just have knee jerk reaction to the whole affair. Another reason I would hesitate with starting a debate here is because I feel that this abbreviated Letter to the Editor format, like verbal debate formats, is an inappropriate forum to discuss the truth or non-truth of scientific theory. Science is built upon reams and reams of supporting data (even Natural History, gasp!), and its conclusions cannot stand without a thorough expert analysis of this data. There is little room here or in a verbal debate for a such an intense review. Of course, debaters can reference sources to justify their claims, but one may reference anything he or she wishes when debating and the reliability is very hard to check right then and there. So, for these two reasons, I would never feel justified in initiating a popularized debate, written or verbal, on any scientific theory (mind you, I am not writing against making science at least accessible to the layman). By contrast, truly scientific debate, such as found in the professional journals, is actually useful and is in fact necessary to the way science works.

In spite of my misgivings, I have justified writing this piece because I see now that someone has already started the debate on the Creationist side and has supplied some facts and listed some resources that are at least intriguing to the argument. So, I felt that since the whole mess had already begun anyway, it would be acceptable for me to give some balance by showing that there are some counterpoints to the offerings that the author of the December letter gave us.

First, just to get it out of the way: Yes, I know that Evolution is "only a theory." So what? All accepted scientific models are in real-

ity just "just theories," and are referred to as such. I think the word "theory" is a catching point for so many people because they don't realize that the word does not just refer to new, untested ideas, but can also refer to the scientific models describing some of the most tested and verifiable scientific principles, such as The Theory of Gravity. Admittedly, some theories are bunk, but saying a model is merely a theory doesn't necessarily mean that it is just a wild guess. That, as you should know from high school science, would be an "hypothesis."

But, back to the article (hey, that theory stuff needed to be said). The first real arguments set forth by the author against evolution appear in the fourth paragraph, and there are quite a few of them in that little block, even if some are only implicitly given. The author uses this paragraph to refer to "approximately 50" examples of logical fallacies and bad science that he has collected associated with evolutionary theory. Now, the author didn't list them in detail (understandably), but he did give a general overview of them, and the part of this description that grabbed my attention most was the reference to those items covering "questions of [evolution's] compatibility with physical and thermal laws." Among all the items, this phrase sticks out for me because I think I know specifically to what Creationist argument he is referring to when he talks about "thermal laws." He must mean the infamous Creationist claim that evolution defies the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. This law states that within all closed systems (systems that have no energy or mass entering or leaving them), no internal process can cause a reduction in the total system entropy, which is a thermodynamic property that can be thought of as a measure of disorder. In other words, the law says that all closed systems tend toward disorder. So, evolution, according to the Creationists, is impossible, because it is an example of spontaneous ordering. This seems like a neat little proof, but the key phrase in the 2nd Law is CLOSED SYSTEM. The 2nd Law only says that entropy change is necessarily non-negative in a CLOSED SYSTEM. Subsystems of the universe that are not closed and do receive energy do not violate the 2nd Law if pockets of negative entropy change occur within them. Well, evolution, assuming it is a reality, occurs on earth, and the earth, no matter how isolated it seems, is far from closed. It receives radiant energy from the Sun every day that can, among many things, cause endothermic chemical reactions that absorb energy and store it in a usable form (check your Chem book). So, using the 2nd Law to refute evolution fails on more than one point.

If the above 2nd Law argument was one of the 50 or so criticisms of evolution that the author of the December letter referred to, then I can, based on my reading of the Creationist literature, guess what some of the other 50 are. I can't, unfortunately, address them all here (&@* debate format again), and I can't be certain which ones were actually in his list, but I know a good place to surely see some of them is at <http://www.talkorigins.org>. This site is an archive of resources for this debate, and it is a good starting point to see how well the Evolution side addresses some of the Creationist claims (quite well

in my opinion).

Moving on, I noticed that the author of the letter in question also mentions Dr. Michael Behe, biochemist and author of Darwin's Black Box. I've read this book, and from what I gather, Behe is primarily concerned with the complexity of biochemical pathways and systems, and how they are just too complex to have formed spontaneously. In the *Miner* letter, Behe's book is presented in reference to the structural complexity of the eye and how just that one little organ alone is too much for evolution to have spontaneously produced. It does seem like a good argument, I guess, to point to the eye and all of its intricacies and beg the question of how in the world it popped into existence. Limited by space, I can't go into that issue myself, but there is a perfectly sound response to that question by evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins in his book, *Climbing Mount Improbable*. Go read it. Dawkins argues that of course the eye didn't suddenly spring into existence, but was the result of incremental additions to a rudimentary light sensing apparatus. He gives plenty of examples that bolster his claim. The point is, he presents positive evidence that indicates the word irrational should not be so readily thrown at the evolutionary scientists for believing in the improbable eye. Still, I recognize that this only looks at the evolution of the macroscopic structure of the eye, and Behe's argument is about biochemistry.

Well, Behe does not really disprove evolution by saying that there is no satisfying theory yet for evolution on a biochemical level. His work merely points to a place in science (biochemistry) where a lot of things just are not yet satisfactorily known, period. Regardless of Behe's intent, his book is more of a challenge to future researchers than a signal to abandon a rather large scientific field of study because some new piece does not just fall into place before our eyes. We can't say that biochemical evolution of a protein is too complicated or unlikely if we don't know how many other possibilities would have also worked, for instance.

But enough of that. One of the last real attacks on evolution presented in the *Miner* letter concerns Hitler, oddly enough. According to the letter, Hitler's twisting of evolutionary theory to justify his own sick philosophy must be a sound reason for us to disregard evolution because it inspires so much evil (evil seed, evil root, eat those beans and you'll really...). I really don't even feel like arguing about this Hitler issue. For one thing, a theory that says species undergo natural selection and that humans may be descended from animals only reveals the functioning of the natural world and does not dictate what we morally choose to do. One cannot so easily translate a theory of species evolution into a theory about social evolution, which is a completely different idea. This was Spencer's mistake. Besides, evolution today does NOT even support notions of a supposedly "superior race" among humans, so the concern is a moot one.

I think I'll wrap up my piece now (if you laugh at that phrase, then Freud was right about a few things), because I've really exhausted the use of this forum. As I've said, this debate format does not do scientific discussion much justice, and my own contribution admittedly suffers from those problems I cited in the beginning. There is a lot I have left unsaid, and I do realize that my words by no means prove anything to anyone. I certainly haven't in this letter even come close to verifying a single evolutionary principle. I didn't intend to, though. As I said, I only wanted to show that there are some good counterpoints to some of the points made in the creationist letter published in the December *Miner*, and also to point the reader toward some references to expedite his or her own independent inquiry. I gave some of these references in the text, but, following the lead of the author of the letter previous to mine, I'll give some more at the end. Just let me finish with a disclaimer saying that this letter was not an attack on faith, and I want no part of THAT argument. I'm only pointing out that some Creationist arguments are not as terribly damaging to evolution as might be thought. Following this disclaimer, I ask that no one dichotomize this argument into a "for or against religion" debate, for that is truly exclusive to many people comfortable somewhere in the middle.

Trevor Strickler, stria@umr.edu

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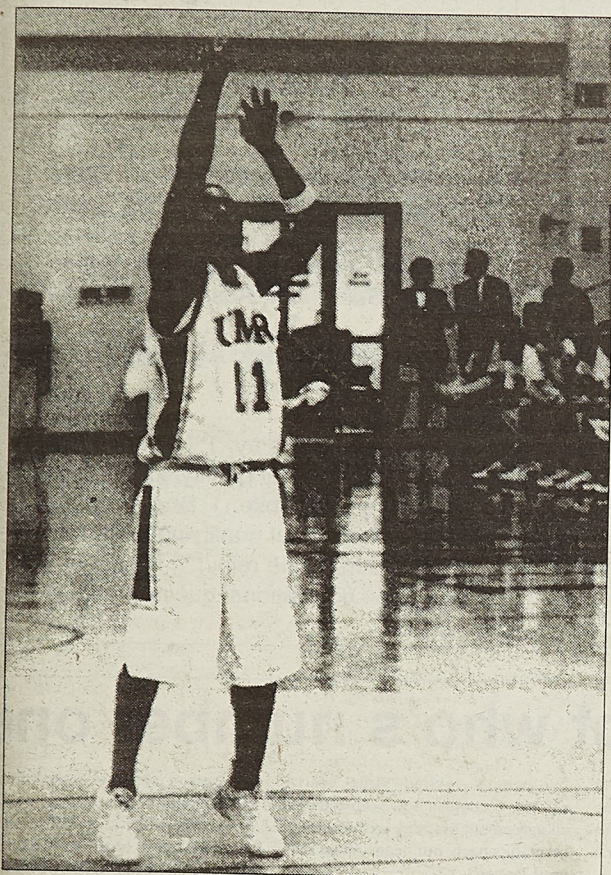
Sports

January 20, 2000

The Missouri Miner

Page 7

Men's basketball struggles losing to Pitt State, CMSU



Kasim Withers follows through on his free throw attempt during last Saturday's loss to CMSU 64-48. The Miner's next game is scheduled for Saturday at Northwest Missouri State. Game time is 3:30 p.m.

photo by Sarah Taylor

Tera McCallum
Sports Writer

The University of Missouri - Rolla men's basketball team has kept a busy schedule during the semester break.

Since New Year's Eve the men have played six games. The breaks have not always gone in favor of the Miners since that New Year's Eve game the Miners have only been able to pull off one win in a number of close games.

The action started on the last day of 1999 with the Miners meeting up against Lincoln University in Jefferson City. Coming into the match Lincoln was 1-9 while the Miners had a winning record of 4-2. Lincoln would be handed one more loss by the end of the game.

From the beginning of the game to the end the Miners were in control. By the end of the first half the Miners were ahead 35-25 after shooting an outstanding 48% from the field. Going into halftime Lincoln knew they would have to do something to turn the game around.

Lincoln came out stronger in the second half outscoring the Miners 45-42, but the last minute scoring drive would prove to be too little, too late as the Miners would take the game with a final score of 77-70. The Miners posted an impressive free throw shooting performance as they made 14 of 16 free throws leading to the end of the game.

The Miners could take little time to celebrate, as their conference home opener would come just four days later against an undefeated Missouri

Southern team. After winning both games against Missouri Southern last year the Miners hoped that they would be able to continue the winning streak.

Both teams came out on the floor ready to play and got right to business. The first half was close with the lead switching sides many times. As the final seconds ticked down the Miners would head to the locker room with a one-point lead, as the score would stand at 33-34 in favor of UMR.

Missouri Southern was not ready to give up its undefeated record and came back on the court ready to prove that. After outscoring the Miners on a 10-2 run part way through the second half, the Miners found it hard to regain the lead and finished with a score of 71-56 in favor of the 25th ranked Missouri Southern.

The Miners had to put the loss behind them quickly to gear up for their game against Southwest Baptist on Jan. 6. SBU had also lost its first conference game to an undefeated team and the Miners were looking to improve their record with a win.

The game proved to be between very closely matched teams. Coming in both teams had the same records and it showed why on the court as the score would remain close throughout the first half with a halftime score favoring Southwest Baptist 33-30.

After halftime the Miners decided it was time for the numbers to go in favor of them. Late in the game it looked like the Miners would tie the game when team scoring leader Scotty Holly went up for a shot and was called for one of the most questionable calls of the game when the shot was nullified when Holly was called

for charging. The call seemed to take the wind out the UMR's sails and SBU would go on to win the game 70-74.

While the game ended in a defeat it was encouraging in that the Miners were able to improve their shooting percentage of their last game of 36% to almost 50% in the SBU game. The team also had four players in double scoring figures: Kevin Robertson, Ben Jordan, Kasim Withers and Holly. The Miners hoped that they would be able to carry the momentum of the good points of the game in to their next match against Emporia State University just two days later.

The Miners would find that once again the shooting bug would bite and they would drop their shooting percentage down to 31% in the first half, which would leave them down 39-27 at halftime. The Miners would find it impossible to pull themselves out of the hole that they had dug as they would continue to shoot only 31% from the field in the second half to drop the game against a very equally matched team 73-57. The Miners did have three players in double figures scoring.

Going into Wednesday's game against Pittsburg State University the Miners were playing for a winning record. They stood at 5-5 while PSU was 8-4. The Miners knew that Pitt State would be a tough team.

The Miners went into Wednesday's game with two strikes already against them. They were once again playing without their starting center Doug Call who had been out the last two games as well due to a knee

see Basketball, page 9

Women's basketball falters in conference play

Antone Smith
Sports Writer

While everyone was away celebrating the New Year and enjoying their time off of school, the Lady Miners were hard at work on the basketball court.

The Lady Miners played against Lindenwood, Missouri Southern, Southwest Baptist and Emporia State during the break. The Lady Miners

got to kick off the new semester with games against Pittsburg State and Central Missouri, during the first week of school.

The Lady Miners (2-5) met with Lindenwood (10-1) on Dec. 30 at the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building. This was the first meeting between the two teams since the 1994-'95 season. This game would prove to be different since the Lady Lions were ranked 15th in the NAIA Division II

rankings. Thus the Lady Lions went on to beat the Lady Miners 65-53.

After celebrating the New Year, the Lady Miners went back to work on Jan. 3 playing their first conference game. The Lady Miners conference opener and first game of the New Year was against Missouri Southern, who leads the series between the two teams 22-8. At the end of the first half the score was 38-30 Lady Miners. The Lady Miners would then build upon their lead and win the game 84-68. The team was lead by junior forward Jackie Kelble, who matched her career high with 22 points. Kelble shot 70% from the field and drowned the only three pointer she shot. Sophomore forward Janel McNeal had ten points and 14 rebounds in the game. Freshman forward Christy Lane also helped the team out by adding 14 points of her own to the scoreboard.

Having started the conference play and the new year off on a good foot, the Lady Miners (3-7) went on to

play another conference game vs. Southwest Baptist who was 9-1 overall and 2-0 in conference play. Southwest Baptist came off of a conference-opening blowout vs. Northwest Missouri State in which they won 102-63. Not only having a winning record and destroying their last opponents, Southwest Baptist has won the last three meeting between the two teams.

Despite 21 points from junior forward Kelble and a career-high 17 points from senior guard Sarah Badsky, the Lady Miners lost to Southwest Baptist. Southwest Baptist dominated the first half as they led 47-35 at half time. The Lady Miners tried to keep up with Southwest Baptist, but were outscored 43-41 in the second half, losing 90-76. McNeal led the Lady Miners with 22 points and 14 rebounds as the Lady Miners moved to 1-1 in conference play.

Their next game was on Jan. 8 against yet another dominating team, Emporia State University (9-1,2-0). Emporia State came to Rolla ranked

ninth in National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II and has won 12 straight games in Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association play. The Lady Miners shot 50 percent in the first half while the Emporia State shot 36 percent. But the Lady Miners were out shot 77-54 as they went into half time down 46-34. The second half was nothing but bad luck as Emporia State built on its lead and went on to win 103-68. McNeal scored 22 points and three others ladies were in double figures in this Lady Miners loss.

This past Wednesday, the Lady Miners (3-8,1-2) took on Pittsburg State (8-3,1-2). Both teams were looking to improve their conference record, but the advantage went to Pittsburg State who had won the last six meetings between the two teams and led the series 16-6. The Gorillas came to Rolla having just won a cliffhanger as they rallied to beat Northwest Missouri State 77-74 and

see Women, page 9

Miner Match-up

Women's Basketball

UMR

vs.

Northwest Missouri State Univ.

Saturday, Jan. 22

Maryville, Mo.

Game Time: 1:30 p.m.

Miner Sports Recap

Men's Basketball

UMR 56
Pitt State 60
 Wednesday, Jan. 12
 Kasim Withers 15 points, 3 rebounds
 Eric Harris 13 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals
 Kevin Robertson 11 points, 4 rebounds

UMR 48
CMSU 64
 Saturday, Jan. 15
 Kasim Withers 13 points
 Will Partin 9 points, 2 rebounds
 Scott Holly 14 points, 5 rebounds

Women's Basketball

UMR 65
Pitt State 78
 Wednesday, Jan. 12
 Janel McNeal 18 points, 7 rebounds
 Eriaka Phillips 12 points, 2 steals
 Jackie Kelble 7 points, 4 rebounds
 Dion McNeal 8 points, 3 rebounds

UMR 56
Lincoln 67
 Saturday, Jan. 15
 Janel McNeal 13 points, 10 rebounds, 3 steals
 Jackie Kelble 12 points, 6 rebounds
 Amy Milliken 9 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals

Swimming

Arkansas-Little Rock Invitational December 3-4 Little Rock Arkansas

Final Scores: Southwest Missouri State 770, Missouri-Rolla 670, Ouachita Baptist 580, Delta State 380, Henderson State 374, University of the South 324, Austin 133, McMurry 98, John Brown 90, Southern Arkansas 78, Rhodes 4

200-yard freestyle relay: 1. Missouri-Rolla 1:23.65 (national qualifying time)
 100-yard breaststroke: 1. Bruno Amizic 57.14 (national qualifying time)
 800-yard freestyle relay: 1. Missouri-Rolla, 6:54.63 (national qualifying time)

St. Louis Rams have no doubt who's number one

T.J. Simers

L.A. Times/Washington Post

A Ram fan for as long as I can remember, I knew this was coming.

You can't keep a good organization down.

Restrained by a duty to remain objective, I have found it difficult, traveling the land, writing positively about the other wretched souls doomed to finish behind our team, but that's the dirty job.

Now that it has become obvious to everyone else that the St. Louis Rams have already won Super Bowl XXXIV, there is no longer any reason to hold back.

"The only thing that can beat the Rams is the Rams," said ESPN analyst Ron Jaworski, who once was a Ram.

The Rams playing the Rams, what a great game that would be, the two best teams competing against each other. They could play it the week after the Super Bowl--Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum is available.

"There has never been anything like this in the NFL," Jaworski said. "You start expecting every play to go for six."

Odds makers have already posted the best team in football as the 2-5 favorite to win it all, and for Ram fans not used to seeing those kinds of numbers, that means you bet \$5 to win \$2. It's the lock of the century. A sure bet. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers, after reviewing video,

might just surrender.

"Hopefully, we painted a glaring picture that we really don't have any obvious weaknesses," said our coach, Dick Vermeil, after the guys blasted the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday, 49-37.

No weaknesses whatever.

"On Saturday, quarterback Kurt Warner baked a yellow cake with chocolate icing for his daughter," the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported, and according to his wife, Brenda, "He did a great job. The cake was very good."

He can bake, he can throw, he can do it all, and after winning the biggest game of his life, our hero went home and watched a Disney movie with his kids.

So you know what he's going to say while running off the field after winning the Super Bowl.

It's all over now, save for the trophy ceremony.

"We have too many guys," said running back Marshall Faulk. "Our kickoff returner (who went 95 yards for a touchdown) is our fifth receiver, and we know he can run.... We not only win, but win big."

These people in St. Louis know their football too, and by all accounts here, this might be the best football team ever assembled.

Wrote St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Bernie Miklasz:

"Vermeil's St. Louis Rams can knock you down, bloody your mouth and then dissect you with surgical, almost scientific preci-

sion.... (They) can beat you with finesse, they can beat you in the clinches. They dazzle and confuse you with sorcery; they wear you down with strength and stamina.... The X's and O's are so sensational as to be cruel."

Name one other team in NFL history that could do all that.

Jerry Magee, long-time San Union-Tribune sports scribe who covered "Air Coryell," was so moved by our team's brilliance that he said he's not so sure that Warner isn't better than Hall of Famer Dan Fouts. And our Ram guy has played in only 17 games. Just wait until he gets some experience. They may waive that five-year waiting rule for Hall of Fame induction.

"Twice (previously) in my time with the Rams, we played in conference championship games--in 1985 and in 1989," said John Shaw, president of our team. "But I don't ever remember one of our teams dominating games as much as we dominate teams now and winning by the margins that we do now."

The Buccaneers scored 284 points in the nine home games they played this season--291 shy of what our guys have scored at home. Domination, baby. Oops, sorry, that's our other team.

"There's no getting around it," said Jack Snow, an 11-year wide receiver with our team and now broadcasting its games. "This is a great football team."

It's also a cocky football team.

"So what," replied Mike Martz, offensive coordinator, who reached an agreement Monday with management to coach our team once Vermeil leaves.

I might be a little more humble, but that's just me. As for our team, well, it knows it's good and it wants you to know it too.

"We're the hot team, and we're the team to beat, and I don't think that's going to happen," cornerback Todd Lyght said.

If anyone should know what it takes to get beat, it's Lyght, who was 40-88 with the Rams before this turnaround season.

"I think we answered all the doubters," Lyght added, "and if they still doubt us, they obviously don't have much knowledge of the game of football."

Frankly, it's hard to imagine anyone doubting our guys, or questioning the incredible alignment of the stars that has allowed everything--that's everything--to fall in place to win a Super Bowl.

But there's probably somebody out there who's going to write about the preseason injury to quarterback Trent Green that put Warner into the starting lineup, or the schedule that had the Rams losing to the only team they played with a winning record--the Tennessee Titans--or the artificial turf and home-field advantage that complement the team's speed, or the luck of the draw that has them matched against the Buccaneers, a team so inept on offense

that even if by some kind of miracle they held the Rams to 17 points they would probably still fall short on the scoreboard, or the fact the Super Bowl this year will be played indoors on artificial turf.

If the naysayers would just check their facts, there wouldn't be any of this nonsense.

"We don't lose in the dome," said defensive end Kevin Carter, and with two games remaining under domes, that kind of settles that.

Come on, what more could anyone want? When our team got the ball in the first half against the Minnesota Vikings it scored on the first play. When it got it in the second half, it scored on the first play.

"We feel like we can outscore anybody in the league," Lyght said, and if I understand the rules of the game properly, that should make them Super Bowl champions.

It's probably not too early to start placing orders for the Super Bowl XXXIV highlight tape, a nice (parting) gift for anyone in the Los Angeles area.

As for a ticker-tape parade through downtown Anaheim, I'll suggest it. After all, our team might have moved to St. Louis, but for some reason Shaw and owner Georgia Frontiere still have homes in the Los Angeles area, and they may want to share the good times with their old friends

Basketball

From page 7

injury, and upon leaving for Pittsburg, Kansas, they found that they would be playing without their team scoring leader Scotty Holly when he failed to show up for the team bus. While it would have seemed that the Miners would be worried with only four relievers on the bench the Miners did not show it.

The Miners came out strong in the first half stunning the Gorillas as they blew past them to put up 30 points in the first half that would leave the Miners leading by four at half-time.

Coming out in the second half the Miners started using players who

had not seen as much court time this season when the starters began to get tired, but the Miners still remained in the game well into the second half. Finally as the second half ticked down PSU took the lead for good as UMR would run out of steam. While it was close to the end the final score would stand 56-60 in favor of the home team, Pittsburg State.

The coming week will hold more tough games for the Miners. Saturday Jan. 15 the men went against 25th ranked Central Missouri State University. Wednesday, Jan. 19, the men will have another home game against Missouri Western. The Miners will then travel to Maryville, Mo. to play Conference leader Northwest Missouri State on Jan. 22.

Just imagine surreal world of MJ in Charge

Ken Rosenthal

L.A. Times/Washington Post

The Baltimore Sun Memo to Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening: Legalize casino gambling immediately. If Michael Jordan is going to run the Washington Wizards, he would need a wagering outpost closer than Atlantic City.

Why not Harrah's at the Harbor? Jordan could become a frequent visitor to Baltimore, uniting the two cities and spearheading the bid for the 2012 Olympics - that is, after he fires Wizards coach Gar Heard and GM Wes Unseld.

If this is the new trend - superstars buying and running teams - someone please hand Ken Griffey the phone number of Orioles owner Peter Angelos.

In some ways, this whole episode is weirder than Dennis Rodman.

America wants to be like Mike. And Mike wants to be like Jerry Krause.

If nothing else, the Wizards would get the coolest Nikes with Jordan aboard, not to mention endless supplies of Gatorade and all the french fries they can eat at McDonald's.

Fortunately, Jordan endorses Jordan MCI rather than Sprint, so Wizards owner Abe Pollin would need not change the name of the MCI Center faster than you can say, "Five cents a minute."

As it stands, the National Air and Space Museum might be renamed the National Air and Space Jam Museum, in deference to Bugs Bunny's favorite teammate.

The White House?

It would become The Nike House after Jordan gets down to true business and defeats Bill Bradley in the 2004 presidential election.

"I never get tired of beating the Knicks," Jordan would say.

If Jordan revives the Wizards, why shouldn't he run for president? The Wizards haven't won a playoff series since 1981-82, Jordan's freshman year at North Carolina.

Two Olympic gold medals, six NBA titles and countless endorsement dollars later, Jordan seems a perfect choice to assume control of the Wizards' acquisition of players and the hiring and firing of their front-office personnel, including coaches.

Krause need not apply.

Ditto for Tim Floyd.

In fact, Jordan would be so hell-bent on defeating the Bulls, he'd work a three-way trade with the Lakers and Trail Blazers to acquire Phil Jackson and Scottie Pippen for four games a year--each of the regular-season meetings against Chicago.

One thing is for certain: The Wizards wouldn't lose back-to-back games to the 5-28 Bulls again or Jordan would make like Yankees owner George Steinbrenner after an inter-

see Jordan, page 10

Miner Match-up

Men's Basketball

UMR
vs.
Northwest Missouri State Univ.

Saturday, Jan. 22
Maryville, Mo.
Game time: 3:30 p.m.

Women

From page 9

win their first conference game. Both teams just could not get the ball to fall into the net as both teams shot around 40 percent for the game. The Lady Miners went into half time down 28-37, and just couldn't put anything together as they were outscored 37-41 in the second half. The Lady Miners had two players in double figures, McNeal scored 18 and senior Eriaka

Phillips had 12 points, in their 65-78 loss.

This past weekend, the Lady Miners (3-9,1-3) played yet another conference game as they took on Central Missouri State (10-2,3-1) here in Rolla at the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building. Central Missouri was ranked third in the South Central region and have beaten the Lady Miners the past two years. The Lady Miners were out to prove themselves and went into half-time in the lead 29-25. But the Lady

Miners fell apart in the second half as they were outscored 22-4 in the last 7 minutes and 16 seconds of the game. McNeal led the team with 12 points and ten rebounds, while Kelble added another 13 points and six rebounds.

The Lady Miners have two more games this week. They played Missouri Western yesterday at home, but results were not available at press time. The women will travel to Northwest Missouri State for their game this Saturday at 1:30 p.m. in Maryville, Mo.

CONGRATULATIONS

KEVIN BIRSCHBACH

Kevin Birschbach is a graduating student in chemical engineering. Leaving the University of Missouri-Rolla in January, Kevin will begin his new career for Archer Daniels Midland Company. Kevin will be working in corn processing in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

ADM is the world's largest agri-processing company and is based in Decatur, Illinois. ADM is continuing to expand throughout North America as well as in China, Europe and South America.

ADM processes corn, soybeans and other oil seeds and produces high fructose corn syrup, citric acid, Vitamin C, Vitamin E, TVP[®], vegetable oil, lecithin, ethanol, as well as many other products.

Kevin found out about ADM's career opportunities from career services and scheduled an interview with ADM. He interviewed in Decatur, toured production facilities, and was then hired as a production assistant.

Kevin will begin training for a period of six to twelve months. During this time he will work with different technicians and engineers as well as learn about the entire process of production at the plant. He wanted the chance to have hands-on experience. Kevin is eagerly awaiting his new career at ADM.

We look forward to Kevin joining us.

Welcome to ADM



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Jordan

From page 9

league loss to the Mets.

Jordan's coach? How about Dean Smith?

His director of public relations? Why not Charles Barkley?

"This might be the only way to get him a ring," Jordan would say.

Seriously, MJ would need help—he didn't exactly distinguish himself as a talent evaluator in his assessment of the Wizards (then the Bullets) after the Bulls' three-game sweep of Washington in the first round of the 1997 playoffs.

"They're truly one of the teams of the future, no matter how you look at it," Jordan said. "(Chris) Webber, (Juwan) Howard, (Rod) Strickland, they're a great combination. And (Calbert) Cheaney. They all played extremely well."

Since then, the Wizards are 72-98, with no playoff appearances. They've traded Webber, parted with former No. 1 draft pick Cheaney and

changed coaches twice.

Can Jordan fix all that? Not right away. And maybe not ever.

A great player doesn't automatically make a great executive. If Jordan bristled over the inadequacies of his "supporting cast" in Chicago, imagine what would happen if his entire organization—or any part of it—failed him.

It's not like he could demand the ball and take over a game. For once, Jordan's success would be based on the performance of others. That would be a major change—even during his ill-fated minor-league baseball career, Jordan was in control.

Then again, it's never wise to underestimate Jordan, on or off the court. Through the sheer force of his personality, he could transform the Wizards into the scariest Washington team since Nixon and Agnew.

Imagine Strickland dogging it against Orlando one night, only to find the team president waiting for him at practice the next day.

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Here's an even juicier image: Jordan marching into the offices of his former agent, David Falk, to demand that Howard renegotiate his contract to accept a lower salary.

What could Howard or any other player say if Michael Jordan told him he wasn't earning his keep? And what could Falk say to a businessman he created in his own cutthroat image? As a negotiator, Jordan would make Gordon Gekko look compassionate, seeking to devour agents the way he once devoured LaBradford Smith.

And if he were charged with tampering—the front-office equivalent of pushing off—he'd get all the calls from Commissioner David Stern, just as he once did from NBA referees.

Failure? It's always possible. But Jordan would hold the ultimate trump card over his players, one that should sufficiently terrorize them into giving maximum effort every night:

No, not Rodman.

Coach Michael Jordan.

John Rocker's appearance draws a curious crowd at charity game

Diane Pucin

L.A. Times/Washington Post

It was as if John Rocker were an animal in a zoo. An object of curiosity, possibly dangerous, definitely strange, maybe interesting. "Should we get close?" a little boy whispered to his father. "Do you think he'll yell at us? He's the bad man, right?"

In his first public appearance since making his disparaging comments about several minorities, including Latinos, the big-boned, big-mouthed Atlanta Brave reliever showed up Saturday at the Dennis Martinez Foundation charity game at the University of Miami.

The money raised is to be used to help Venezuela recover from last month's devastating mudslides. Soon-to-be Hall of Famer Tony Perez threw out the first ball. Texas Ranger catcher Ivan Rodriguez was a popular attendee. Andres Galarraga, Rocker's Atlanta teammate, also appeared.

But it was Rocker who caused the most hubbub, who caused the crowd of about 4,000 to look and point, to whisper and boo, but not too loudly.

"He's coming out," Alex Hernandez said. Alex, 13, pointed to a yellow Port-O-Let next to the dugout. A second later, Rocker climbed out. His

baseball cap was on backward. His sweat pants hung down a little low. Rocker smiled, gave a half bow and began signing autographs.

"Do you speak Spanish?" Alex asked Rocker. "Not really," Rocker said. "I can understand it better than I can speak it." "Amigo," Alex said. Rocker looked puzzled, said nothing and signed Alex's \$10 admission ticket.

"This took some courage, for him to come here," Martinez, the sponsor, said. "This will be a tough crowd for him. These people are proud and they all know what was said. But this is a good first step for John."

Martinez spoke to several Latino TV stations with his arm draped around Rocker's shoulders. Rocker looked down at his feet. Martinez patted Rocker's shoulders.

Rocker had committed to this charity affair months ago, Martinez said, long before the Sports Illustrated article appeared. It was in that story that Rocker, in a blanket condemnation of life in New York, mentioned in his diatribe his distaste for all those who didn't speak English up to his standards. In a meeting last week, Hank Aaron had reportedly urged Rocker to live up to this commitment, no matter how uncomfortable Rocker

might feel.

Still, an hour before the game, no one was sure if Rocker would show. "I don't think he'll come," Harry Ellis, a fan, said. "I'm here because I want to see if the guy shows up."

But when game time arrived, so did Rocker. He went into the dugout, put down a bag and came right out to sign autographs.

"The guy, he's showing something," Alex's father, Randy, said. "I'm sure he's not too comfortable today. So he's lived up to an obligation and for a good cause. That doesn't excuse him, but it helps him."

Not so, said the Pichareo brothers. Francisco, 31, and his 24-year-old twin brothers, Jose and Mario, booted and yelled and pounded their fists when Rocker came to bat. The brothers had come from Nicaragua 11 years ago and have made their way in Miami by working factory jobs, sometimes working two or three jobs at a time. Francisco attends Miami Dade Junior College at night. He apologizes. "My English is not so good," he says. "I wish it were better."

That Rocker would disparage New Yorkers, Jose Pichareo said, was not so bad. "Everybody knows the people are tough in New York," he said. "But why did he not say anything bad about white New Yorkers? Why did he only say bad things about foreign people and gay people? That's what is wrong. I bet the people who yelled at him in New York at the games, I bet there were white people too. Why didn't he call them bad things?"

It was not bravery or contrition that brought Rocker to this game, Francisco said. "It is just for his image. His agent told him to come. Or his boss."

"He should not be able to play base

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see Rocker, page 11

For now, it's wide open down under

Rachel Alexander

L.A. Times/Washington Post

The stifling heat that usually blankets this tournament had yet to arrive, and the chanting, chest-painted fans who fill the stands were still getting seated. Still, there was no doubt at Melbourne Park Monday that the Australian Open had begun, as players from all over the world arrived ready to make a fresh start at the first Grand Slam of the year.

Like baseball players during spring training, the tennis elite are here carrying clean slates and big dreams for the season ahead. This is the tournament where anything is still possible, and everyone is aiming high. Established players such as top seed Andre Agassi and defending champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov are looking for titles and bragging rights, while No. 3 seed Pete Sampras is trying to set a record by winning his 13th career Grand Slam title.

In the women's draw, the four-way rivalry that dominated last year has, at least temporarily, been turned into a three-way battle, with No. 2 seed Lindsay Davenport, top seed Martina Hingis and No. 3 seed Serena Williams left to fight it out as Williams' older sister, Venus, sits at home in Florida with a wrist injury.

Others, such as French force Amelie Mauresmo, local favorite Lleyton Hewitt and hard-serving Australian Mark Philippoussis, also lurk, an 1-at least for a few days--the tournament is as wide open as the hopes of its participants.

"Every year you have the chance to do this, have a (fresh start) every year, every time," said Jennifer Capriati, who looked strong in a 6-1, 7-6 (7-1) win over Barbara Schwartz. "I think I started

off the year pretty well in Hong Kong, even though it's an exhibition, and it's all preparation for here, which is where I want to do the best."

Now 23, Capriati's emotional and erratic career seems to be settling down, with her Hong Kong performance giving her a quiet confidence she has not displayed in years. Capriati defeated Hingis and Mary Pierce on her way to the title in that tournament, and her win Monday should help her inch back into the WTA Tour's top 20.

More importantly, she just feels better, saying she has put her troubled teen years and even her emotional breakdown at last year's U.S. Open behind her. "I think it was really just about time that I really get consistent and get into it," she said. "I went through everything, all the ups and downs in my game, and finally it's... I just found a way to get my game back and feel comfortable and confident."

"Maybe I walk around with my back a little higher and my shoulders back more."

Joining Capriati in the second round will be Davenport, who breezed through a 6-3, 6-1 match against Sarah Pitkowski; Agassi, who had an equally quick 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 win over Mariano Puerta; and Tim Henman, who overcame a slow start to defeat Jerome Golmard, 6-7 (7-3), 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (9-7). Two-time Australian Open champion Jim Courier was not so fortunate, falling 6-7 (7-4), 6-3, 7-5, 6-1 to Frenchman Nicolas Escude, while Spain's Carlos Moya withdrew from the tournament with an injury.

Sampras, Philippoussis and Mauresmo were scheduled to play later Monday, with Mauresmo, a finalist here last year, already one of the tournament's

more intriguing stories. A stunning series of matches, including wins over Pierce, Hingis and Davenport, in a warm-up tournament in Sydney last week earned her a second career title, and a huge dose of confidence.

Hewitt, the feisty 18-year-old who burst into the ATP Tour's top 25 last year, is on a similar roll, having won the first two ATP tournaments of the year. He has also reached the top spot in the ATP's new champions race, the system that has replaced the standard rankings this year.

Hewitt is not seeded here. His first-round match is against American Paul Goldstein, who reached the third round at last year's Australian Open by defeating then-No. 8 seed Greg Rusedski. "Obviously the guy is in great form," Goldstein said. "But you have to look at it as a challenge. If I play my best, you never know. Anything can happen."

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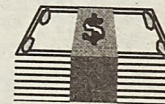
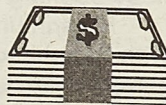
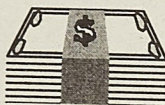
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Rocker

From page 10

ball anymore," the third brother, Mario, said. "If you or I had said the same things in public, our boss would fire us. Why does baseball not fire this man? Or at least suspend him. This is a free country, yes, but for me, it would be a country where the boss would be free to fire me if I ran my mouth like that."

So the Pichareo brothers did not ask for Rocker's autograph.

But dozens of others did. Children and adults, nearly all Latino, shouted at Rocker in English and Spanish. They thrust pages of the Sports Illustrated story toward Rocker. Rocker signed. They shoved bats in his face. Rocker signed. They waved caps and balls and shirts. Rocker signed. Rocker was given a baby, and he posed for a picture. "Gracias," the baby's uncle said.

In his only at bat--he did not pitch--Rocker popped out. The Pichareo brothers booed loudly, so loudly that they were told to be quiet. "Act with class," a man yelled.

And so the crowd did. With class and curiosity. And forgiveness? Hard to tell.

"I want to let people see I'm not a bad guy," Rocker said as he walked away. "I have nothing else to say."

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Missouri's Rush finds positives during punishment

By Kyle Nagel

U-Wire

COLUMBIA, Mo. -- During Missouri's game against the Colorado Buffaloes on Wednesday night, Kareem Rush sat at the end of the bench in a non-descript white sweater and black pants. Rush, who usually bears the Tiger black and gold, just happened to be the team's second-leading scorer and rebounder for the first eight games of the season. For the past month, he's been forced to sit and watch, but he has been learning.

MU's win over Colorado marked the sixth game the team has had to play without the services of the freshman small forward.

Rush is currently suspended until the team's Jan. 29 game against Texas A&M for allegedly taking money and gifts while playing on an AAU basketball team at Pembroke Hill High School in Kansas City.

In mid-December, MU suspended Rush for possible NCAA violations that also involved his brother, JaRon, who is currently suspended by UCLA pending the conclusion of an NCAA investigation.

A week later, the NCAA ruled that Kareem Rush would be required to pay the amount of money he allegedly received in gifts, which was later valued at \$1,800, to a charity of his choice by the end of his eligibility with MU.

Rush was forced to miss half of the team's regular season games in the 1999-2000 season. MU appealed, and Rush's suspension was reduced to missing one-third of the team's games,

which slates him to return against the Aggies.

During all of his absence, Rush has been allowed to practice with the struggling Tigers.

Jeff Hafer, one of two seniors on the team, said Rush's presence at practice has helped the Tigers improve on game days.

"He's so good because he's still in there with us," senior Jeff Hafer said. "He can rebound, he can play inside, he can play outside, and he always brings the entire intensity of practice up."

After big wins over Iowa and Illinois minus Rush, the Tigers went on to lose consecutive games to Kentucky, Winthrop and their conference opener at Iowa State.

Without him, the team had scored four fewer points per game and grabbed about seven less rebounds per game until an offensive outburst Wednesday night.

Missouri coach Quin Snyder said Wednesday's victory was a team effort that seemed to be missing in previous games.

"We're learning to play together now," Snyder said. "The guys know that once someone goes off on their own the team breaks down. I was happy with some individual performances, but the team now is really practicing and playing as a group more."

Hafer said that Rush's impact is felt even though he patrols the sidelines in street clothes.

"We're always going to miss Kareem," Hafer said. "Right now we're trying to be who we are as we are right now. Right now he's practicing with us, and I don't think he's going to miss a beat."

Rush is now taking his punishment as best he can. He said he thinks of ways in which he can help his team besides physically being on the court.

MU Athletic Director Michael Alden said Rush has excelled off the court during his suspension.

"Kareem handled it fabulously," Alden said. "He did wonderfully academically last semester, and he was very open and honest with us during and after the

investigation."

Rush said what he has learned is how to study the game and his schoolwork. Despite working harder in practice, Rush said he not only made the dean's list but he relishes being able to study opposing teams from the bench.

"I can read defenses a lot better now and I'm learning how to take advantage of people on offense," Rush said. "So in practice I definitely am stepping up a little bit more."

Hopefully, when I come back people will see that I was still working."

Rush's work off the court has even allowed him to make his time on the bench valuable to both him and his teammates.

"I go ahead and say something to the guys if I see something they need to improve on," Rush said. "I can tell them, 'Hey do this on defense,' or, 'Do this on offense.' I really try to be that extra coach on the bench and make the most of what's happening."

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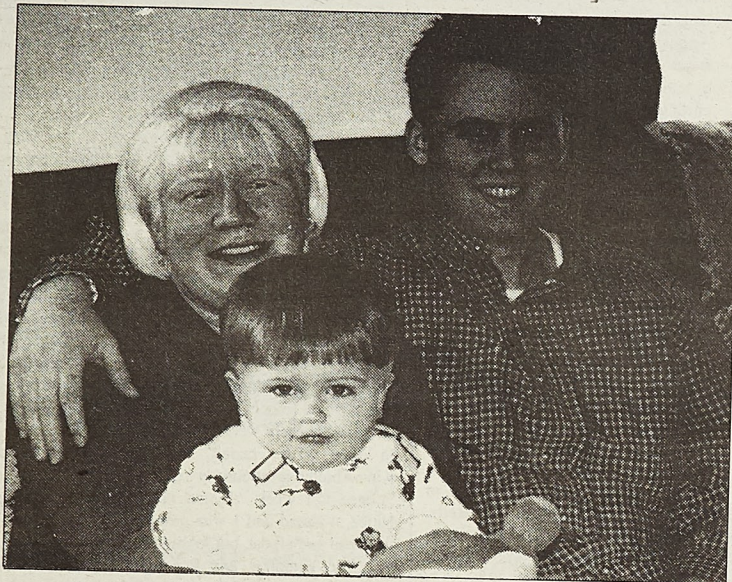
Features

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Family & Education



Jessica and Tim Moran find difficulty in keeping up with their child, Aiden, and a marriage while studying at UMR, but feel a sense of reward for their efforts. photo by Sarah Taylor

Priscilla Schulte
Features Writer

Time management is an important part of every student's life, especially those students who face difficult or unusual circumstances. Scheduling time for homework, studying, work, exercise, errands and fun can be a complicated task. Many students who never learn how to budget their time do not succeed. As the old saying goes, "When you fail to plan, you plan to fail." This is not the case for Jessica and Tim Moran, who have learned the importance of time management in their hectic lives.

Tim, an aerospace engineering major who will graduate this May, and Jessica, an English major, were married in 1998.

"We were always together. We were inseparable from day one. It seemed like the next logical step to get married," Jessica said.

Their son, Aiden, is now 15 months old, and they are expecting Asher, their second son, to be born this March. As if caring for one child and one unborn child does not require enough time management, Jessica has a visual impairment which renders her unable to drive, and she has developed diabetes during her second pregnancy, making frequent doctor visits a necessity. Though just reading this could stress someone out, Jessica and Tim

have kept their sense of humor and just take what life throws at them.

"I work at the UMR Print Shop. I work as many hours as I can up to 16 per week. Since I have to drive Jessica, I take off work when she has to go to the doctor, which is every Friday. If there's something you have to do, you do it," Tim said.

Balancing schoolwork and class with children and doctor visits is tricky, but Tim's determination shines through in his grades.

"I took between three and four weeks off total, at different times, during the semester of Jessica's first pregnancy. The professors are usually very understanding. They were cool, and even when I missed class, I still did the work and homework. My schoolwork has gone way up. The semester Aiden was born, I got a 3.0 GPA. The next semester I got a 3.7 GPA, and then I got a 4.0 GPA for the summer semester. I was more determined to get my GPA up to go to graduate school," Tim said.

Jessica is moving along the path to graduation more slowly than Tim, but has found more success since she switched from the psychology department to the English department.

"My schoolwork has gone down. I was taking classes when I was pregnant with Aiden. I was put on bed-rest and could only finish one class since only one professor said I could do the

work at home. I took nine hours the semester that Aiden came home. I only kept one of those classes. Since I have a visual impairment, it was very difficult to complete the required reading since Aiden always seemed to need something. Now if I go up to professors and explain the situation, it usually works out really well. I also get two weeks maternity leave in the English department after the baby is born," Jessica said.

Tim looks forward to graduate school when he will have a lighter class load and be able to help Jessica more with the children.

"Tim has more schoolwork than I do, so I do most of the housework. He goes to school and work, and then he comes home and helps me take care of the baby," Jessica said.

"Jessica has to spend a lot more time with Aiden since children have a lot more attachment to their mothers at such a young age. Kids develop attachment to their fathers as they get older. Aiden loves being around me now. Everyday when I come home from school, Aiden runs at me to pick him up," Tim adds.

Tim and Jessica feel that their situation would be easier and their schoolwork better if UMR did more to accommodate students with families of their own.

see Family, page 14

CD Review:

Magnolia artist blossoms under movie soundtrack

Heather Grimes
CD Reviewer

Welcome back UMR students. Have you seen a good movie lately? Well, this week, I have chosen the soundtrack to the new motion picture *Magnolia*. The movie started in theaters on Jan. 7, with an all-star cast of actors such as Tom Cruise, Julianne Moore, and Jason Robards. The soundtrack released last year, featured Supertramp; Gabrielle, Jon Brion, and the mainstream artist Aimee Mann. Mann, though unfamiliar to this writer, apparently impressed Executive Producer and Director, Paul Thomas Anderson. He wrote and produced a variety of movies, the latest, *Boogie Nights*.

Anderson befriended Mann after being a long-time fan. While writing his new script for *Magnolia*, Mann inspired him to take a new twist in the creative process. Often screenwriters take a famous book and turn it into a motion picture. Instead, Anderson took the lyrics to Mann's music and wrote his script almost entirely from the stories her music told.

Melora Walters played Claudia, a character regretting past events in her life and searching for some sort of peace. Anderson said Claudia, "has a true sense of Aimee Mann's insanity." As a matter of fact, the character's line, "Now that you

have seen me, would you object to never seeing me again?" came from the first line of *Deathly*, a song featured on the soundtrack. He continued to say, "It equals the story of Claudia. It equals the heart and soul of *Magnolia*."

Now, I ask myself, is the soundtrack as good as Anderson has pro-

moted so intensely? Or should I be asking, is Aimee Mann as good? To answer these questions, I reviewed the soundtrack and have come to a definite conclusion.

For the most part, the vocals are decent. Mann has a hint of Sheryl Crow in her voice that could be good or bad depending on your preference. The style of music is somewhat different though. I have found the accompanying music to be a little odd, but you will find that in various motion picture soundtracks. Mann is not quite a pop artist, and she is not quite alternative. Most of the songs have a slower beat. However, they are certainly not love ballads. Each song represents a portion of the movie. The movie is a way of showing life's events. You know, the one's you would think couldn't be true if demonstrated in a movie.

The Hot Track for the week is "Dreams" by not Aimee Mann, but Gabrielle. You may recognize the up-beat pop song. It is the only pop hit to hit the radio thus far from the

album. It's style is not like that of Mann, who is the main focus of the soundtrack. The song is about how dreams can come true, and the person singing, dreams of a special someone. Unfortunately, it is the typical '90's rock song. It's the year 2000 now, and I would hope we could move into a new era of music.

The *Magnolia* soundtrack is not bad for a motion picture album. I

don't expect a major uproar over it, like for example the soundtrack from the motion picture *Armageddon*, but it wouldn't be a waste of money. This week, the I give *Magnolia* a ** rating. If you are the type of person who likes music to kick back, and think about the lyrics, this is a good selection for you.



Singer and songwriter Aimee Mann and director Paul Thomas Anderson worked together on the soundtrack for *Magnolia*. photo courtesy of Reprise Records

Fashion:**Leather presents a chic look****Abere Karibi-Ikiriko****Fashion Columnist**

With all the homework to do and tests to study for, students don't have time to worry about what to wear. For most students, anything would do. However, I searched the campus to bring you this week's campus fashion.

Robbie Beane walks casually from UC East with his backpack behind him. But you have to look closer to find out what is special about Beane. That orange dot on the left hand of his backpack is not an illusion, it is a sticker that reads "Vegetarian", so don't you dare bring any meat near him. He has also been caught wearing stickers that read "Special".

Hey if you've got it, flaunt it! Beane's outfit is casual but is a stylish combination. He is wearing a thick, dark short sleeved T-shirt over a white long sleeved T-shirt pulled up to the elbows. The contrast and material of this outfit makes it perfect for the weather. To complete this outfit, he is wearing a pair of relaxed fit blue jeans and a pair of comfortable black and white sneakers.

But Beane is not done yet. What makes him the perfect fashion model for the first issue of the semester is the ring on his right eyebrow. Body piercing is definitely one of the growing fashion fads of this period. Several students have their eyebrows, lips, tongues, belly buttons, nose, nipples, ears, or "other areas" pierced, with the most

common being the ears. So Beane is not alone and it actually looks good on him.

Fashion advice for girls:

Leather, in any of many incarnations, is a must this season. From an ultra-feminine yet powerful long-legged leather pant to a knee-length skirt to a leather turtleneck (a super-sexy way to dress up a pair of pants), designers this season have something in leather for everyone. A word to the wise - don't go crazy. Unless you are a member of Hell's Angels, remember to take baby steps. Try wearing a leather pant or a leather top. Modern leather is chic, and yes, even subtle. Regardless, this winter, it's all about leather forever.



Robbie Beane sports clever buttons and a cool eyebrow piercing.

photo by Abere Karibi-Ikiriko

Fashion advice for guys:

Here are a few tips for the complete man's wardrobe: Shirts, starched white, blue and plaid oxford shirts. Starched white and denim banded collars. Clean and pressed T-shirts. Regular heavy T-shirts should be immaculately clean, wrinkle-free and can be worn under linen and wool gabardine blazers. A sweat-shirt or two for casual days and a denim shirt. Slacks: A pair of clean, pressed,

dry-cleaned, well-fitting khakis, corduroys, jeans or flannels, will add a lot to your looks. Shoes And Belts: invest in good-looking belts and shoes - polished, high-quality bucks and loafers look great. Sneakers for casual days and exercising.

Chad Cole's Culinary Corner:**Tips for road trip sanity: caffeine!****Chad Cole****Culinary Columnist**

So, it's time for another semester of great fun down here in the college town that's located in "the middle of everywhere." (Such a sign exists on the outskirts of town, I swear) I guess it's not so bad, we all had three good weeks to rejuvenate our supplies of joy and adventure in the real world. We were given a little time off to purge that foul University of Missouri at Rolla stench from our systems. I know that I came back with more of a spring in my step than usual!

During our little three week exodus from this joint, I had a blast on a multi-part ski trip through Colorado and New Mexico. This gave me the great idea to give out some of my hard won food tips for anybody planning a ski trip. I have secured these priceless pieces of information through lots of wasted time, sweat, tears and money, so use them wisely. The fee for this spiel is nada. I doubt you'll come across such a deal anywhere else.

First, we must look at the trip getting there. For those riding a bus or train to the slopes, remember to bring lots of snacks for the road. Food is usually not provided at all and if it is, do not expect the meager portions to tide

over a body that will be needing a truck load of calories for the next day's skiing. Most of these buses and trains will make a stop or two where you can stock up on stuff at a gas station, but that is also not always the case. So, be a boy scout and come for this mission prepared with lots of grub on you.

Now, for the people that have to drive it themselves, the key here is COFFEE. This stuff is magic for a 12 hour car ride. The caffeine in some good coffee is just one hop away from amphetamines and over twice as legal (hey, if you got a prescription for it, more power to ya, because an amped up driver is still much safer than a sleepy one). On these long road trips of any kind, safety is important and caffeine has a certain way of getting you there. USE IT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD! Don't be a road hazard whatever you decide to do. Those tortuous, ice-covered roads around the mountains are death traps if you're not 100% awake, so be 100% awake AND aware.

As far as food goes for the driver, you've all been on long road trips, so you know your favorite driving munchies to bring along for company. Having something to graze on while driving is another way to keep awake and mentally active, especially if you're alone or all of your 'friends' are in sleepy-town,

leaving you at the helm all by yourself on a dark road somewhere off BFE. Pull over and enjoy some of America's great selection of fast food if your eyes are going woozy on you and the peaceful hum of the highway is about ready to turn you into a peaceful piece of road kill. It's always cool to try out some of those fast food franchises that don't have any locations around your area.

On a side note, I had to do all of the driving throughout this last ski trip of mine, because the friend that I went with has two DWI's under his belt. So, what I'm also saying is "don't drink alcohol while driving." I would even forego the NyQuil on long road trips. Different states have varying degrees of what they considered drunk, and I think ours has one of the highest thresholds. A DUI can also be issued, which doesn't need any certain level of alcohol in the blood.

That concludes part one of this two part "Skiing and Food" saga, but stay tuned for next week's installment. I know that I got off my favorite subject of food and pretty much gave you a public service announcement for safety on long driving trips, but I get paid all the same either way. So, I think I'm gonna go fix me some pasta right now and you guys be careful on the road out there. Later!

Humor:**World ends, everyone dies****Marmaduke Gump****Humor Columnist**

Worldwide anticipation reached its pinnacle Friday evening, Dec. 31, 1999, as millions gathered in towns and cities across the globe to witness the dawn of the New Year and hopefully survive the onslaught of demon-kind.

However, as the clock ticked over in that final second, the world let out a somewhat disheartening sigh of relief, soon after which billions perished in an instantaneous and somewhat anticlimactic death.

President Clinton's newly instated Press Secretary Joe Lockhart explained to the *Missouri Miner*, "The Defense Department had a clear and precise plan of action in the case of civil uprising or foreign attack. Our troops were on full alert—guns loaded and blood-letting bayonets cleaned. However, in the face of an unseen foe who simply killed all life in a split second, our forces and best-laid plans were quite futile. We were all so looking forward to blowing away some Commies, too."

That same sentiment ran through most people's hearts around the world. International leaders and foreign dignitaries everywhere were "really wantin' to kill us some crazies," as Jordan's King Abdullah mentioned in a press conference last week. "Syrian President Hafez al-Assad and I wuz primed for the Jihad and all dat, but fo' nuthin'."

The complete and unequivocal death of all mankind occurred as the minute 12:05 a.m. passed on Kiribati's Caroline Island, the first land mass to reach the year 2000. Experts have concluded that our internationally accepted time standard, Greenwich Mean Time located Greenwich, England, was off by a total of four minutes, 37 seconds.

Family**From page 13**

"The school doesn't look after the needs of married students, especially students with families. It's geared towards single students who only look after themselves. We could both take classes at the same time and study on campus, if there was a daycare center on campus, without having to continually look after the needs of a toddler. Student Council was looking to put a daycare center in, but for whatever reason, nothing has come about. If the school thinks it isn't needed, they are wrong. There is virtually no one in my aerospace engineering class who isn't married or engaged. If nothing else, they could put a play area in UC East where the games are," Tim said.

"I'd prefer to have a daycare center where I could drop Aiden off, go to class and come back for him. I feel that the school really needs to have a daycare so that at least Aiden would get to play with other kids for an hour [even though we don't want to put him in daycare full-time]. None of the bathrooms have diaper-changing tables. There is only one high chair in UC East cafeteria, and there are none in the deli. I can't use Student Health Services because I am pregnant, but I still have to pay the fee," Jessica said.

And while the path is difficult for Tim and Jessica, especially with few accommodations from the school, they still feel that they have reaped many rewards by having a family.

"You learn to set priorities and be more responsible. You can't go out whenever you want," Jessica said.

"But that's okay because you find other things you like to do. We know how to budget money. You're tired all the time, but you get used to it," Tim adds.

"Sometimes it makes you critical of other peoples' actions since you see the harm that actions can bring to others. It makes you see things differently," Tim concludes.

This slight error meant that the natives of Kiribati, who have traveled to the uninhabited island by boat, were caught off-guard in their festive traditional New Year's orgy when Supreme Death claimed all 6.04 billion souls on the planet.

The least foreseen and yet most disastrous side effect of the loss of all human life on earth is being felt in the music industry, where boy-bands like 98 degrees and 'Nsync were able to arrive on time and ready for their post-New Year's Eve concerts. Five lead singer Josiah O. Bittenbower, who performs under the moniker "Jimmy J. J." spoke to the *Missouri Miner* about their shows.

"Most people expected us to go with the rest of the planet. I guess the Supreme Ruler of the Universe saw us more as gods than humans. I can only attribute that to our good looks, clean police record, and high chest-hair-to-testicle ratio."

Officials around the globe hope to inform citizens of the full truth and impact by the end of March, as data is yet being collected. Residents are being asked not to question their existence yet, seeing the fact that nobody really does exist any more. If you have a question or concern, contact your police or fire department... unless it's about the Matrix, in which you will be terminated.

The preceding article contained childish stupidity and should not have been read by those five years of age and older. The author claims no responsibility for accidental death, spontaneous combustion, fried tomatoes, or the heartbreak of psoriasis brought on by this piece of literary buffoonery. Reader discretion was advised.

Student Life

January 20, 2000

The Missouri Miner

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Two St. Pat's Committee members sell merchandise at the Puck, eagerly anticipating St. Pat's 2000 celebration.
photo by Sarah Taylor

SUBconscious:

Get ready for a great semester with SUB!

Kate Carter

Student Union Board (SUB)

Hey welcome back. I hope that everybody had a safe and happy break. I know that I wasn't ready to come back quite yet. But hopefully SUB can provide some things to keep you from getting bored.

Today come check out SUB's Puck party. We will be having free food, music and the opportunity to check out SUB.

This weeks movies are a 007 James Bond movie, *Diamonds are Forever*, and *What Dreams May Come*. The movies are at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. in ME104 and are free to all students.

For all of you interested in proving how smart you think you are, come check out SUB's College Bowl. It is

Sat., Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. in the Meremec Room. To sign up all you have to do is show up at 10 a.m. in the Meremec room in UCE, or sign up outside SUB's door at 218 UCW. Trophies and registration to the regional competition will be awarded to the winners.

Next week we're having a Julia Roberts weekend featuring *Conspiracy Theory* and *Runaway Bride*. And coming in February SUB is having a concert series. Every Thursday at 8 p.m. we're going to have a band in the cafeteria. This is free to all students. Feb. 10 we're having *Third Degree*. Feb. 17 is *Four Shadow*, Feb. 24 is *MU330*. On March 2 we are having a Battle of the Bands co-sponsored by Internet Underground Music Archive (IUMA.) The winner of the contest has the opportunity to go on to the Regional competition with the possibility of a record deal.

Hunting humans fosters leadership

Phillip Ballard

Army ROTC

Lurking in the shadows of the night, an enemy tank platoon is positioned to defend a lone supply point. The cool night air has been quiet and peaceful. At approximately 3 a.m., the night watch hears a low rumbling. It starts to get louder...and closer. It's coming from the other side of the ridge to the north. He wakes his comrades, and they scramble bleary-eyed to their machines. Suddenly the night explodes as machine gun fire erupts from the top of the ridge line. One of the tanks explodes in a fireball as a TOW (Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire-guided) missile finds its target. The tanks

move to better positions to protect them against the attacking Bradley Fighting Vehicles. Then out of the west, a platoon of tanks rolls across the battlefield to demolish the remaining enemy forces.

Okay, that sounds like a scene out of a war movie that you can watch on the History channel, but this battle is similar to what Cadet John Miller experienced this summer during his Infantry CTLT (Cadet Troop Leadership Training). The difference is that the explosions and gunfire were simulated because they were fighting other U.S. forces in mock combat.

Cadet Miller was placed as acting Platoon Leader (PL) of Third Platoon, Charlie Company, 1-41 Infantry. It was a mechanized infantry unit. A mech

infantry unit has four Bradley fighting vehicles which hold 3 crew plus 6 dismounts.

Cadet Miller got experience at garrison operations, mechanized infantry tactics, and leading troops into battle. The garrison operations consisted of preparing for the field, how the Bradley works, and the interactions in a real unit. He spent a couple weeks out in the field where he did mock combat like the one I described at the beginning. Some of the battles were successful, and some were learning experiences.

To learn more about Army ROTC and the CTLT program, please contact arotc@umr.edu or Major Probst at 341-6808.

Writing Across the Curriculum

Start the semester off with a bang

Bevin Raines

Writing Across the Curriculum

Now is the time to get organized. Set aside special hours of the day or night for routine studying. Since most instructors include test dates and due dates of papers and projects in their syllabi, you can use this information to make a special calendar or schedule of important academic dates and deadlines. If you are like most students, you will probably find that many of your tests dates and due dates of important assignments are clumped within the same week. You can use this knowledge to plan the most convenient times for doing research, writing papers, and studying for exam.

When projects or papers are due during the same week as scheduled tests, you can always set a personal deadline of a week or two before the actual due date to avoid unnecessary stress. Since January is often a slow month without tests or due dates, now may be a convenient time to get started on term projects and papers. This may make sleep a possibility later in the semester, and finals week doesn't have to be a week of misery and intense suffering.

Commit yourself to good study habits and careful time management at the beginning of the semester, and you can end the semester with high grades.

Countdown at 57 daze mark

Rick Willis

St. Pat's Committee

The St. Pat's committee would like to welcome everybody back for a "wonderful" (yeah, right) semester. But hey, don't feel bad. You all have something to look forward to. That's right, it's only 57 days 'til the best ever! You know what that means? Yep, 50 days party. The specifics will be coming out in a while but be planning on having a hell of a time next Wednesday. So, plan now, do your homework, study for your tests, and showering wouldn't hurt. Because there's no excuse for missing this party. If you want some specific information about this give me an e-mail at willis@umr.edu and I'll answer any questions you have.

We would also like to announce that novelties have arrived. So, go to the puck and check out the new can coolies and mugs. Oh, wait, did I forget to mention that we have SHOT

GLASSES? Well, we do and you know how fast they sell out. So, if you want one you better hurry.

To all of the St. Pat's Queens and Knights out there, you need to know that we will be taking pictures of your elite faces on Jan. 25. So, keep that night clear. We will send you some more info later on. Just wanted you to know.

Man, I'm rambling. Anyway, it's getting to be that time of the year when the committee interviews prospective new members. Keep in mind that anyone can join the best organization on campus. There is a common misconception that only guys in Greek houses are in St. Pat's. Well, that is not the case. We take anyone that is interested in making St. Pat's the best ever. So, if you are interested or need any info about the organization or when and where interviews are give Brian Johnson an e-mail at bwj@umr.edu.

StuCo Minute:

Student Affairs to host lunches

Mandy Modlin

Student Council

"Creating and Maintaining a Caring Community" is a series of three lunches which will feature campus topics critical to the University of Missouri-Rolla. On Tuesday, Jan. 25, Connie Eggert, Director of Development and Strategic Campus Marketing will present the topic of "Marketing." She will discuss the current market initiatives underway at UMR.

The Wednesday, Feb. 2 luncheon will be hosted by Martina Hahn, Director of Admissions, and be entitled

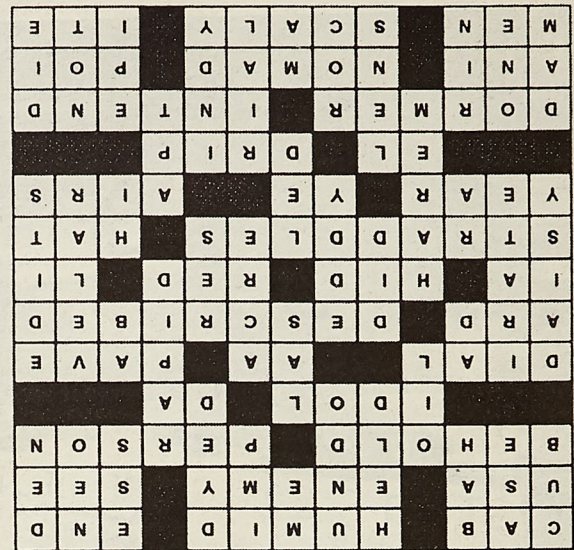
"Recruiting". The last luncheon will be hosted by Debra Robinson, Director of the Center for Personal and Professional Development, and be entitled "Retention". This luncheon will focus on ways to foster success among current UMR students.

Each lunch will be hosted in the Carver-Turner room of UCE and will begin at 11:30 a.m. Attendees will be responsible for bringing their own lunches, but refreshments will be provided. If you are interested in attending any one of these lunches, please RSVP by calling the Student Affairs office (341-4292).

from page 3

She worries about implications at the workplace, where companies can monitor an employee's electronic mail. Given that some companies pressure employees to support particular causes or candidates, Alexander said, the specter of such snooping on Election Day could create qualms.

In the end, Slocum said, "the Internet is just another alternative. If you choose to go to the polling place, great. If you vote by mail, do it. If it's the Internet, terrific."



Answers to Crossword Puzzle

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Comics/Diversions

January 20, 2000

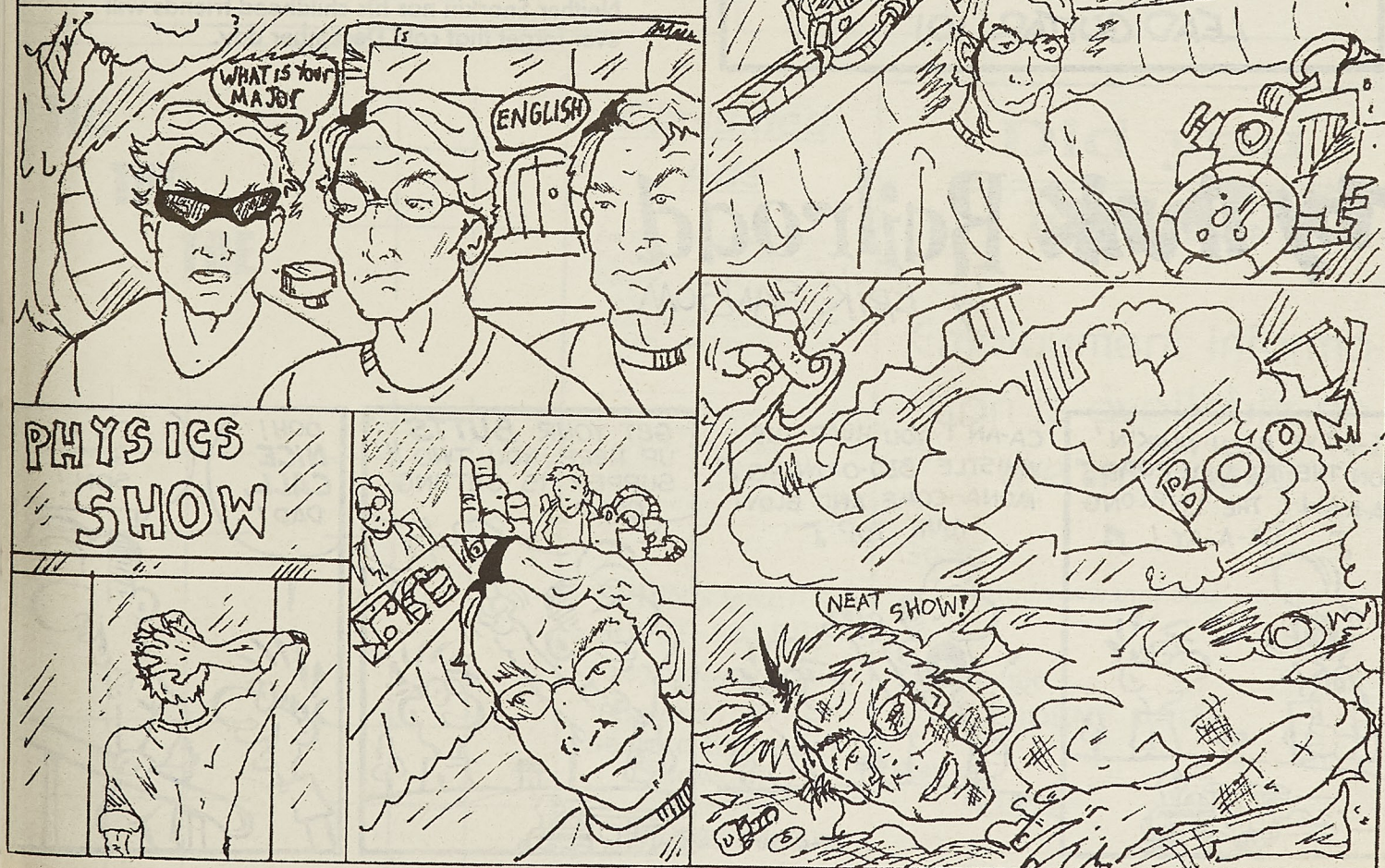
The Missouri Miner

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MINER ADJUSTMENTS By C. James



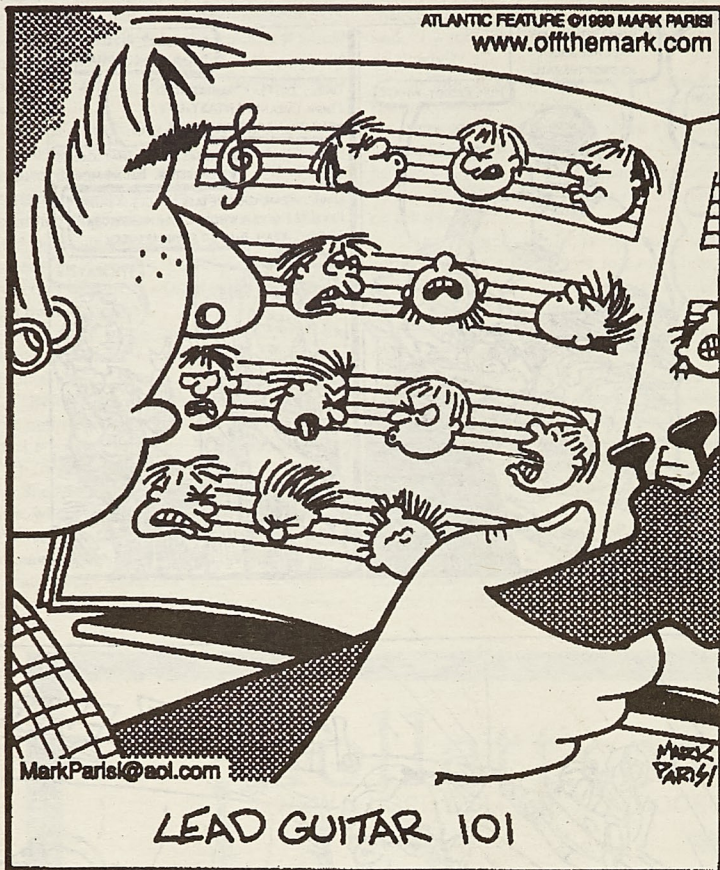
THE ENGLISH STUDENT BY: MARK SMELCHER



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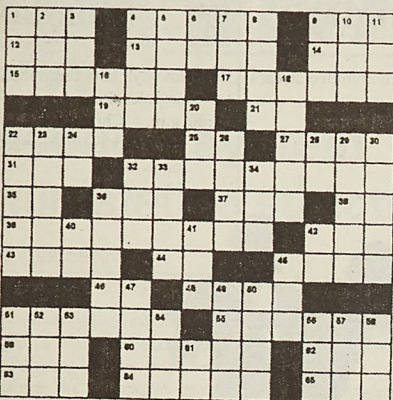
Neither Snorkin nor his childhood friends will ever forget that cold December day.

Toy Trunk Railroad

by ERIK SANSOM



Crossword Puzzle



- 26 43,580 sq. ft.
- 28 Away from (Lat. pref.)
- 29 Using the soft palate
- 30 Changes
- 32 Completed
- 33 Whirlpool
- 34 Judicial point
- 36 Moslem wives
- 40 Egyptian sun god
- 41 Ahead in a race
- 42 Greeting
- 45 Appropriate
- 47 Camera glass
- 49 Iranian monetary unit
- 50 Classic race (slang)
- 51 Water barrier
- 52 Low number
- 53 Tin-Tin
- 54 Extinct bird
- 56 Over; above (pref.)
- 57 Negative
- 58 Expire
- 61 Colloq. for mother

ACROSS

- 1 Taxi
- 4 Damp; muggy
- 9 Finis
- 12 America (abbr.)
- 13 Foe
- 14 Look
- 15 Lo
- 17 Being
- 19 Image; hero
- 21 Prosecuting lawyer (abbr.)
- 22 Clock face
- 25 Drinker's group (abbr.)
- 27 Tar
- 31 Person who does something to excess (suf.)
- 32 Related, explained
- 35 Midwest state (abbr.)
- 36 Concealed
- 37 Color
- 38 1/3 mile (Chinese)
- 39 Astride
- 42 Head cover
- 43 Calendar measurement
- 44 You (archaic)
- 45 Lofty pose
- 46 Elevated train
- 48 Trickle

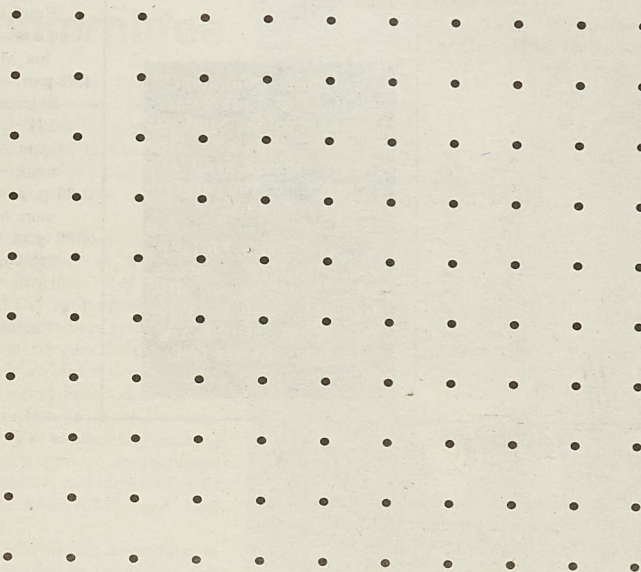
DOWN

- 51 Vertically set window
- 55 Plan; expect
- 59 Tropical Amer. bird
- 60 Rover
- 62 Hawaiian food
- 63 Man (pl.)
- 64 Covered with scales
- 65 Native (suf.)
- 1 Baby lion
- 2 Chem. suffix
- 3 humbug!
- 4 Mesmerized
- 5 Cancel; annul
- 6 Myself
- 7 Mischievous child
- 8 Changed color
- 9 Female suffix
- 10 Period subdivision (pref.)
- 11 Room for relaxation
- 16 Petroleum
- 18 Fast
- 20 Vegas
- 22 Spring flower
- 23 Angry
- 24 Public announcement

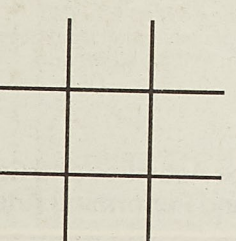
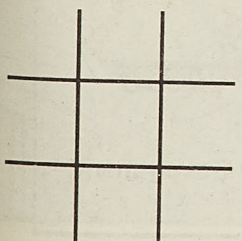
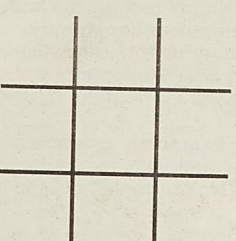
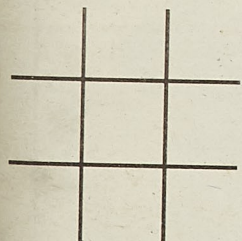
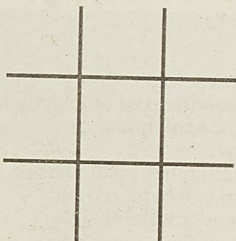
Answers
on
page
16...

The Dot Game

Instructions: Players take turns connecting two dots (horizontally or vertically only). If a person completes a box, he puts his initials in it. The player with the most boxes with his initials in it when all the boxes are completed, wins.



TIC TAC TOE



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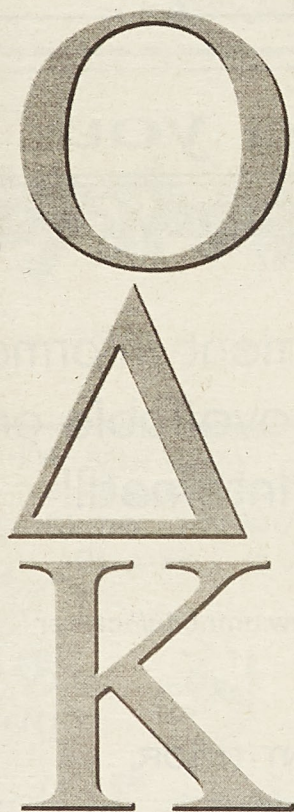
Calendar of Events

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20 Today	21 Friday	22 Saturday	23 Sunday	24 Monday
<p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Christian Campus Fellowship bible study, Ee G31</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Show-Me Anime meetings, McNutt 204</p> <p>7:45 p.m. - St. Pats weekly meeting, ME Annex 107C</p>	<p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p> <p>All organizational meeting times and places are provided by the Student Activity Center, 218 UCW. Please send all changes to the aforementioned office.</p> <p>SPORT CODES: FB-Football, MS-Men's Soccer, WS-Women's Soccer, MB-Men's Basketball, WB-Women's Basketball, SW-Swimming, BB-Baseball.</p>	<p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Chess Club chess tournament, UCE Cafeteria</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - SUB presents Coll Bowl, UCE</p> <p>11:00 a.m. - SW at Missouri, Columbia, MO</p> <p>1:00 p.m. - National Society of Black Engineers tutorial program, McN 204</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - WB at Northwest Missouri, Maryville, MO</p> <p>3:30 p.m. - MB at Northwest Missouri, Maryville, MO</p> <p>8:00 p.m. - Residence Hall Assn. Snowball dance, Centennial Hall, UCE</p> <p>TBA - TF at Eastern Illinois, Charleston, IL</p>	<p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p>	<p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p> <p>7:00 a.m. - Christian Campus Fellowship prayer meeting, Sunrise room, UCE</p>
<p>25 Tuesday</p> <p>All Day - St. Pats committee sweatshirt sales, Puck</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - MSM Spelunkers meetings, McN 204</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Tau Beta Pi meeting, ME 216</p>				



Leadership Honor Society Forming Applications Available...

The Purpose of The Omicron Delta Kappa Society is Threefold:

First, to recognize those who have attained a high standard of efficiency in collegiate activities and to inspire others to strive for conspicuous attainments along similar lines;

Second, to bring together the most representative students in all phases of collegiate life and thus to create an organization which will help to mold the sentiment of the institution on questions of local and intercollegiate interest;

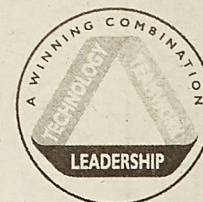
Third, to bring together members of the faculty and student body of the institution, as well as other Omicron Delta Kappa members, on a basis of mutual interest and understanding.

Five Major Phases of Campus Life: Omicron Delta Kappa recognizes and encourages achievement in scholarship; athletics; campus or community service, social and religious activities, and campus government; journalism, speech, and the mass media; creative and performing arts. Students of exemplary character and leadership experience, in one or more of the five areas, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Five Indispensable Qualifications for Membership: Exemplary character, responsible leadership and service in campus or community life, superior scholarship (3.2 GPA), genuine fellowship, and consecration to democratic ideals.

Applications for membership are available at <http://www.umn.edu/~stu-aff/odk.pdf> Other information concerning your collegiate activities that cannot be included on the application may be added as necessary. Drop off or mail the information to Omicron Delta Kappa Society, 106 Norwood Hall, before Friday, January 28, at 4:30 PM. If you have any questions or want more information, please e-mail Cody May, a student currently working on forming the organization at cody@umn.edu.

<http://www.odk.org>



**Scholarship ♦ Athletics ♦ Campus/ Community Service, Social/Religious Activities and Campus Government
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